

*Read 4 Jan 1704*

A  
B I L L

*K. England. — Parl. [Bills. — II: Anne.] 16*  
For the Better

Relief, Imployment, and Settlement  
OF THE  
P O O R,

As the same was Reported from the COMMITTEE  
TO THE

Honourable House of Commons;

IN ORDER

That (by Reason of the great Importance and Universal  
Concern of the said B I L L)

The same be farther Consider'd against the

*Next Session of Parliament.*

L O N D O N :

Printed by the Directions of Sir HUMPHRY MACKWORTH,

By Fr. Collins in the Old-Baily, for George Straban, at the Golden-Ball, near the  
Royal-Exchange in Cornhil; and are to be sold by J. Nutt, near Stationers-  
Hall. 1704



A  
B I L L  
For the better  
Arrest, Amendment, and Settlement  
OF THE

P O O R  
As the same was Reported from the COMMITTEE  
TO THE  
Honourable House of Commons;



That (by Reason of the great Importance and Universal  
Concern of the said B I L L)  
The same be further Considered against the  
Next Session of Parliament.

L O N D O N  
Printed by the Directions of Sir HUMPHRY MACKWORTH  
By F. Collins in the Old Bailey, for George Stanger, at the Golden Ball, near the  
Royal Exchange in Cornhill; and are to be sold by J. Ward, near St. Dunstons.  
Hill. 704.



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# BILL

FOR THE

## Better Relief, Employment, and Settlement of the POOR.

**W**HEREAS the making Provision for the POOR is highly acceptable to Almighty God, on whose Blessing the Happiness and Prosperity of the Nation doth intirely depend; and forasmuch as the Laws and Statutes of this Realm heretofore made relating thereunto, are become very Numerous, and in some parts thereof difficult to be Understood, and put in Execution by Inferiour Officers, and are also defective in several particulars, whereby the Necessity, Number, and continual Increase of the Poor, through the whole Kingdom of England, and Dominion of Wales, is become very great and exceeding Burthensome: For Remedy thereof, and to the end that one General Law may for the future be Established, for the more Effectual Relief, Employment, and Settlement of the POOR, which would greatly tend to the Honour of Religion, and the Publick Benefit and Advantage of this Kingdom,

May it please Your Most Excellent Majesty, That it may be Enacted, And be it Enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, and by the Authority of the same,

1. That the Churchwardens of every Parish, and one or more Substantial Housholders there, as shall be thought meet, having respect to the proportion and greatness of the said Parish and Parishes; and one or more Substantial Housholder in any Hamlet, Township, or Vill, within any large Parish or Parishes, where such Hamlet, Township, or Vill, have used separately to maintain and provide for the Poor and Impotent within their respective Limits, out of double the number return'd by every such Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, shall be appointed Yearly in the Easter Week, or within one Month after Easter, by, and under the Hands and Seals of two or more Justices of the Peace of the same County, Riding, Liberty, City, or Town-Corporate, dwelling in or near the said Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, and shall be, Overseers of the Poor of the same Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill respectively.

2. And they, or the greater part of them, shall take Order from time to time, by and with the Consent of two or more such Justices of the Peace as is aforesaid, for setting to Work the Children of all such, whose Parents shall not by such Overseers, or the greater part of them, or by the said Justices, be thought able to keep and maintain their Children: As also for setting to Work all such Persons married or unmarried, who in the Judgment of the said Overseers, or of the said Justices, have no means to maintain themselves, or use no ordinary and daily Trade of Life sufficient to get their Living by; and also to raise Weekly, or otherwise, by Taxation of every Inhabitant, Parson, Vicar, and other Person, and of every Occupier of Houses, Lands, Tythes Improprate, Appropriation of Tythes, Coal-Mines, or Saleable Underwoods, in the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill respectively, in such competent Sum and Sums of Money as they shall think fit, a convenient Stock of Flax, Hemp, Wool, Thread,

Iron, and other necessary Ware and Stuff, to set the Poor on Work; and also competent Sums of Money, for and towards the necessary Relief of the Lame, Impotent, Old, Blind, and such other among them, being poor and not able to Work. And also for putting out such poor Children as aforesaid to be Apprentices, to be raised and collected in the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill respectively, according to the Ability of the same; and to do and execute all other things, as well for the disposal of the said Stock, as otherwise concerning the Premisses, according to the directions of this present Act.

3. Which said Overseers so to be appointed, or such of them, as shall not be let by Sickness, or other Just Excuse, to be allowed by two such Justices of the Peace, or more, as is aforesaid, shall meet together once every Month, or oftner if they think fit, in the Church of the said Parish, upon the Sunday in the Afternoon, after Divine Service; and the Overseers of such Hamlet, Township or Vill, in some convenient House, or Place, within the Liberties thereof, there to consider of some good Course to be taken, and of some meet Order to be set down in the Premisses, on pain that every one of them Absenting themselves without Lawful Cause, as aforesaid, from such Monthly Meeting, for the purposes aforesaid, or being Negligent in their Office, or in the Execution of the Orders made by and with the Assent of the said Justices of Peace, or any two of them, shall forfeit for every such Offence, in being Absent or Negligent as aforesaid, the Sum of twenty Shillings.

4. And it shall and may be Lawful, as well for the present as subsequent Overseers, or any of them, by Warrant from any two such Justices of the Peace, as is aforesaid, to Levy the said Sums of Money, and all Arrearages, of every one that shall refuse to Contribute according as they shall be Assessed, by Distress and Sale of the Offenders Goods, rendering to the Parties the Overplus; and in defect of such Distress, it shall be Lawful for any two such Justices of the Peace, to Commit him or them to the Common Goal of the County, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, till payment of such Sum, and all Arrearages.

5. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That if in any Parish or Place within this Realm, there happen to be hereafter no such Nomination of Overseer or Overseers, Yearly, as is before Appointed, that then every such Justice of Peace of the County, dwelling within the Division where such default of Nomination shall happen; and every Mayor, Alderman, and Head Officer of any City, Town-Corporate, or Place where such default shall happen, shall lose and forfeit for every such Offence the Sum of Five pounds, to be employed towards the Relief of the Poor of the said Parish, or Place, and to be Levied as aforesaid, of their Goods and Chattels, by Warrant from the General Sessions of the Peace of the said County, or of the same City, Town-Corporate, or Place, if they keep Sessions.

1. And for preventing Abuses in the Relief of the Concerned Poor, be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That there shall be provided by the said Overseers, and kept Poor.



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ca. 11.

Books for  
Registering  
the Poor to  
be relieved.

Power of  
Justices to  
Order Relief.

Parishioners  
allowed to  
give Evi-  
dence against  
Overseers.

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ca. 3.  
The Poor re-  
lived to  
wear a Badge.

Penalty on  
refusal.

Penalty on  
Overseers  
reliving  
P. or not  
wearing a  
Badge.

kept in the Vestry, or usual Place of Meeting, in every such Parish, Hamlet, Township, and Vill as aforesaid, at the Charge of the same respectively, a Book or Books, wherein the Names of all such Persons, who do, or may receive Collections, shall be Registered, with the Day and Year, when they were first admitted to have Relief, and the Occasion which brought them under that Necessity: And that Yearly, in *Easter Week*, (or as often as it shall be thought convenient) The Inhabitants or Parishioners of every such Parish and Place, shall meet in their Vestry, or other Usual Place of Meeting, in the same Parish or Place, before whom the said Book shall be produced; and all Persons receiving Collection shall be called over, and the Reasons of their taking Relief examined, and a new List made and entered of such Persons as they shall think fit, and allow to receive Collection; And that no other Person be allowed to have or receive Collection at the Charge of the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill respectively, but by Authority, under the Hand of one or more Justices of the Peace residing within such Parish or Place; or if none be there dwelling, in the Parts near or next adjoining, to be granted after hearing the Overseers, or one of them, of the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill respectively, and not otherwise; or by Order of the Justices in their respective Quarter-Sessions, (except in Cases of Pestilential Diseases, Plague, or Small-Pox, for and in respect of such Families only as are, or shall be therewith Infected.)

2. And the better to prevent all deceitful Practises of the said Overseers, *Be it Enacted*, and Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That in all Actions to be brought in Her Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, or at the Assizes, or Grand Sessions for the Counties of *Wales*, for the Recovery of any Sum or Sums of Money Mispent, or taken by the said Overseers, of the Poor, the Evidence of the Parishioners, or Inhabitants, or any of them, (other then of such as receive Alms, or any Pension or Gift, out of the Collections, or Publick Monies of such Parish or Place respectively, whereof the Defendant or Defendants is, or are Inhabitant or Inhabitants) shall be taken and admitted, any Custom, Rule, Order, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

3. And to the end that the Money raised only for the Relief of such as are as well Impotent as Poor, may not be Mis-applied and Consumed by the Idle, Sturdy and Disorderly Beggars, *Be it further Enacted*, by the Authority aforesaid, That every such Person as shall be upon the Collection, and receive Relief of any Parish or Place; And the Wife and Children of any such Person, Co-inhabiting in the same House, (such Child only excepted as shall be by the Overseers of the Poor permitted to live at home, in order to have the Care of, and Attend an Impotent and Helpless Parent) shall upon the shoulder of the Right Sleeve of the uppermost Garment of every such Person, in an open and visible manner, wear such Badge or Mark as is hereafter mentioned and expressed; that is to say, a large *Roman P*, together with the first Letter of the Name of the Parish, or Place whereof such poor Person is an Inhabitant, cut either in red or blue Cloth, as by the Overseers of the Poor it shall be directed and appointed: And if any such poor Person shall at any time neglect or refuse to wear such Badge, or Mark as aforesaid, and in manner as aforesaid, it shall and may be Lawful for any Justice of the Peace of the County, Riding, City, Liberty, or Town-Corporate, where any such Offence shall be committed, upon Complaint to him for that purpose made, to punish every such Offender for every such Offence, either by Ordering of his or her Relief, or usual Allowance on the Collection, to be abridged, suspended, or withdrawn, or otherwise by Committing any such Offender to the House of Correction, there to be Whipped and kept to hard Labour, for any number of Days not exceeding One and Twenty, as to the said Justice, in his Discretion, it shall seem most meet. And if any such Overseers of the Poor shall relieve any such poor Person, not having and wearing such Badge or Mark as aforesaid, being thereof Convicted upon the Oath of one or more credible Witness or Witnesses, or by his own Confession, before any Justice of the Peace of the County, Riding, City, Liberty, or Town-Corporate,

where any such Offence shall be committed, he shall forfeit for every such Offence the Sum of twenty Shillings, to be Levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of every such Offender, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any such Justice, one moiety thereof to the Use of the Informer, and the other moiety to the Use of the Poor of the Parish where the Offence shall be committed.

4. And *Be it also Enacted*, by the Authority aforesaid, That if the said Justices of the Peace do perceive that the Inhabitants of any Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, are not able to Levy among themselves sufficient Sums of Money for the purposes aforesaid, that then any two Justices, not Inhabiting, or having any Estate within the said Parish or Place, shall and may Tax, Rate and Assess as aforesaid, any other Parish or Parishes, Place or Places, within the Hundred where the said Parish or Place is, to pay such Sum and Sums of Money to the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish or Place, for the said purposes as the said Justices shall think fit, according to the Intent of this Law. And if the said Hundred shall not be thought, by the said Justices, able and fit to relieve the said several Parishes and Places not able to provide for themselves, as aforesaid, Then the Justices of Peace, at their General Quarter-Sessions, or the greater number of them, shall Rate and Assess, as aforesaid, any other Parish or Parishes, Place or Places within the said County, for the purposes aforesaid, as in their Discretion shall seem meet.

5. And *Be it further Enacted*, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Father and Grandfather, Mother and Grandmother, Brother, and unmarried Sister, being of the whole Blood, and the Children of every Poor, Old, Blind, Lame, and Impotent Person, or other poor Person not able to Work, being of a sufficient Ability, shall at their own Charges relieve and maintain every such poor Person, in that manner, and according to that rate, as by the Justices of Peace of that County, Riding, Liberty, City, or Town Corporate, where such sufficient Persons dwell, or the greater number of them, at their General Quarter-Sessions, shall be Assessed, upon pain that every one of them shall forfeit twenty Shillings for every Month which they shall fail therein.

6. And for the more easie Recovery, and better Imployment of Charitable Gifts, of Lands and Tenements, Goods and Chattels, made for the Maintenance and Relief, or Imployment of the Poor of any Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, *Be it Enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, That upon Complaint made to the Justices of the Peace, at their General Quarter-Sessions holden for any County, Riding, Liberty, City, or Town-Corporate, that any such Charitable Gift hath been Mismanaged or Misapplied, and upon an Order by them made, appointing a certain number of Justices to inquire into the same, it shall and may be Lawful to, and for the Bishop of every Diocese, and his Chancellour, and the said Justices of Peace, so named in the said Order, together with the Minister of the Parish or Place where any such Charity is to be Employed, or any four or more of them, to Execute all such, and the same Powers and Authorities for Enquiring into, and Redressing or Ordering of any such Charitable Gifts, in as full and ample, and the same manner to all intents and purposes, as if the said Bishop, Chancellour, Justices of the Peace, and Minister of the Parish or Place were named, and appointed in or by any Commission issued out of the High Court of Chancery, pursuant to the Statute made in the Forty third Year of the Reign of the late Queen *Elizabeth*, Intituled, *An Act to Redress the Misimployment of Lands, Goods, and Stocks of Money heretofore given to certain Charitable Uses*.

7. And to the Intent that necessary Places of Habitation may more conveniently be provided for such Impotent, or other poor People, *Be it Enacted*, by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful for the said Overseers, or the greater part of them, by the Leave of the Lord or Lords of the Mannour whereof any Waste or Common within their Parish, Township or Vill, is, or shall be parcel, and upon Agreement before with him or them made in Writing, under the Hands and Seals of the said Lord or Lords, or otherwise, according

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who shall  
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A Power to  
Inquire into  
the Misappli-  
cation of  
Charities to  
the Poor of  
any Parish.

Houses on  
Wastes for  
the Poor.



according to any Order, to be set down by the Justices of the Peace of the said County, or place at their General Quarter-Sessions, or the greater part of them, by like Leave and Agreement of the said Lord or Lords, in Writing under his or their Hands and Seals, to erect, build, and set up in fit and convenient places of Habitation, in such Wast or Common, at the General Charge of the Parish or Place, or otherwise of the Hundred or County, as aforesaid, to be Taxed, Rated and Gathered in manner expressed, convenient Houses of dwelling for the said Impotent, Poor, and also to place Inmates, or more Families than one in one Cottage or House, one Act made in the 31st Year of the Reign of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Entituled, *An Act against the Erecting and Maintaining of Cottages*, or any thing therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding; which Cottages and Places for Inmates shall not at any time after be used or employed to or for any other Habitation, but only for the Impotent and Poor of the same Parish or Place, that shall be there placed from time to time; by the Overseers of the Poor of the same Parish or Place, or the most part of them, upon the Pains and Forfeitures contained in the said former Act, made in the said 31st Year of her said late Majesties Reign.

Concerning the Employment of the Poor.

Overseers may set up any Trade for Employing the Poor. And make Rules and Orders.

Parishes with consent of Justices, may join their Stocks together for Employing the Poor.

Penalty on Overseers for neglect of Duty.

Orders of one Sessions for joining Stocks, may be a tered by another.

1. And for the better Employment of the Poor, be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Overseers of the Poor in any Parish, and for the Overseers of the Poor in any such Township or Vill, as aforesaid, by and with the Consent of two or more Justices of the Peace, to set up, use, and occupy any Trade, Mistry, or Occupation, only for the setting on Work and better Relief of the Poor of the Parish, Town or Place, of, or within which they shall be Overseers of the Poor as aforesaid; and to make such Rules and Orders, as may best conduce to the Carrying on the said Trades, Misteries, and Occupations, any former Statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

2. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That two or more Parishes, Places, Townships or Vills, within the same County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate, or Precinct, may, by, and with the Consent, and at the Request of the Inhabitants of the said respective Parishes, Places, Townships, and Vills, and with the Approbation of the Justices of Peace at their General Quarter Sessions, to be holden for such County, Riding, City, Borough, Town-Corporate, or Precinct, or the greater number of them, and not otherwise, joyn and contribute in such manner and proportion as shall be directed by the Order of the said Justices, for the raising a convenient Stock of Flax, Hemp, Wool, Thread, Iron, or other Materials, for the Employing and setting on Work the Poor within their respective Parishes, Hamlets, Townships or Vills: And in case the Overseers of the Poor in any such Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, or any of them shall refuse or neglect to raise such convenient Stock, for the Employing and setting on Work the Poor who are able to work, and for the necessary Relief of such Impotent, Old, Blind, and others as are not able to work, within his or their respective Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, when thereunto required, by a Warrant under the Hands and Seals of two or more such Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, or to raise, pay, and contribute such Share and Proportion towards the raising a Stock between two or more Parishes, Hamlets, Townships, or Vills, as shall be directed by the Order of the said Justices at such General Quarter-Sessions, as aforesaid; or in case the said Overseers, or any of them, shall refuse or neglect the Performance or Execution of his or their Duty prescribed by this Act, then all and every Person and Persons so Neglecting, Refusing or Offending, shall for every such Offence, for which no other Penalty is Inflicted or Imposed by this Act, forfeit any Sum not exceeding ten Pounds, to be Levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods of such Offenders, rendering the Overplus to the Owner.

3. Provided nevertheless, That such Order or Orders as shall be made at any time by the said Justices of Peace at their General Quarter-Sessions, for two or more Parishes, Places, or Vills, to Join and Con-

tribute for the Raising a convenient Stock, as aforesaid, may from time to time be Altered, Amended, and set aside, upon complaint to the Justices of Peace at any Subsequent Quarter-Sessions, to be holden for the same County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate, or Precinct, and reasonable notice given of such Complaint to the Parties concerned.

4. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful to, and for the Overseers of the Poor of any such Parish, Township, or Place, or the Major part of them, with the Consent of one or more Justices of the Peace of the said County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate, or Precinct, to set and put out any poor Person of the said Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, to Work or Labour, with any Person or Persons, Bodies Politick or Corporate, who are willing to hire, and employ him, her, or them, either by the Day, Week, or otherwise, and at such Rates as shall be agreed between the said Overseers, and the Person or Persons willing to employ them: And in Case such poor Person or Persons shall refuse to work accordingly, any one or more Justices of the said County, Riding, or Place, shall and may send him, her, or them to the House of Correction, there to be Whipped and kept to hard Labour, for any time not exceeding twenty Days.

5. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in Case any such poor Person or Persons who shall be set on Work by the Overseers, as aforesaid, or any of them, shall wilfully Imbezzle, Purloin, Sell, or make away any Flax, Hemp, Wool, Thread, Yarn, Iron, or other Materials, delivered to him, her, or them, or shall Reel-short, or false Yarn, or commit any other Fraud in their said Work, or refuse to work when thereunto appointed by the said Overseers, or any of them, or shall wilfully neglect, forsake, spoil, or Endamage his, her, or their Work, that then it shall and may be Lawful to and for the Overseers, or any of them, by Warrant of any one or more Justices of the Peace of the said County, Liberty, or Place, or of the Mayor, Bayliffs, or other head Officer of any City or Town-Corporate, in case the said Offence shall be committed within such City or Town-Corporate, to send and convey such poor Person or Persons so Offending, to the House of Correction, there to remain and be kept to hard Labour for such time, not exceeding the space of fourteen Days, as the said Justices of Peace, or other head Officers shall think fit; or if in the Judgment of the said Justices or Head Officer, as aforesaid, they shall be thought able, then until they make Satisfaction; or otherwise the said Overseers, or any of them, may by Warrant of such Justice of Peace, or Head Officer of the Corporation, cause the Person or Persons so offending, to be whipped in the Presence of the Constable, or some other of the principle Inhabitants of the said Parish. And the Buyer or Receiver of any Purloined Materials, knowing them to be such, may be convict after the same manner, and shall suffer the same Punishment as the Purloiner.

6. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful to and for the said Justices of the Peace, at the General Quarter-Sessions to be holden for each County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate, or Precinct (if they shall think fit) at the Request, and upon the Nomination of any such Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, to appoint one or more Person or Persons, having Skill and Experience in matters of Trade; and in the Woollen or other Manufactures used in this Kingdom, to be Assistant or Assistants to the said Overseers of the Poor, and every of them respectively, in Employing and Instructing the Poor at Work, and in disposing of the Goods and Merchandizes to be Manufactured by them, to the best profit and advantage; and to allot unto such Assistant or Assistants, such reasonable Allowances out of the Moneys raised for the Employment of the Poor, and out of the Profit of the said Goods and Merchandizes so to be Manufactured by the said Poor as aforesaid, as they shall think fit: And upon complaint against the said Assistant and Assistants, from time to time, to Displace and Remove them as the said Justices of Peace shall think fit: And upon the Death or Removal of them or any of them, at the Request and Nomination of such Parish, Hamlet, Township,

Overseers, with consent of Justices, may let out the Poor to work.

7 J. 7. 1 Q. A. c. 18. Penalty on Poor that shall Imbezzle any Flax, &c.

Penalty on Receivers of Purloined Goods.

Justices at the request of the Parish, may appoint Assistants to the Overseers.



ship, or Vill, as aforesaid, to appoint others in their places, for the carrying on the said Work to the best advantage.

Duty of  
Assistants.

7. And the said Assistant and Assistants so to be appointed as aforesaid, shall be Aiding and Assisting to the said Overseers, in instructing the Poor at Work, in keeping a strict and regular Account of all Moneys Received and Disbursed by the said respective Overseers; and of all the Goods and Merchandizes Manufactured by the said Poor, or Disposed of by them, in one or more Books, to be prepared for that purpose at the Charge of the said Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill: And also in Bargaining and Contracting for all Flax, Hemp, Wool, Thread, Iron, and other Ware and Stuff to set the Poor at Work: And the said Overseers shall forthwith deliver the same to the Poor in such proportion as they shall think fit, to be Wrought and Manufactured, according to the Directions of the said Assistant or Assistants, who shall be further Aiding and Assisting to the said Overseers, in selling and disposing of the said Goods so Manufactured by the said Poor, to the best Profit and Advantage, according to the true meaning of this present Act.

Overseers  
may rent  
Work-houses  
and Ware-  
houses.

8. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful to and for the respective Overseers, with the Consent of the Inhabitants of their respective Parishes, Places or Vill, and by Order of the said Justices at their General Quarter-Sessions, to take one or more House or Houses, with their Appurtenances, for the more convenient employing and setting the Poor to Work; and also one or more Ware-house or Ware-houses, for the safe keeping of such Goods and Merchandizes so to be Manufactured as aforesaid, until the same can be sold to the best Advantage, and to pay the respective Rents thereof to the several Landlords, out of the Monies to be raised, for the Relief and Imploymment of the Poor, as aforesaid.

Justices at  
Quarter-  
Sessions, may  
make farther  
Orders.

9. And be it farther Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Justices of the Peace at the general Quarter Sessions aforesaid, shall and may from time to time, Make and Constitute such farther Orders, as they shall think fit, for the better Regulating and Ordering the Poor at Work, and for the Managing, Selling, and Disposing of the Goods and Merchandizes so to be Manufactured, as aforesaid, to the best profit and advantage: And also for keeping proper Vouchers, and strict and regular Accounts of all Moneys received and disbursed on any the Occasions above-mentioned; which Orders, and every of them, shall be strictly observed in all Parishes and Places aforesaid; and in default thereof, every Overseer and Assistant offending against the same, shall for every such Offence, forfeit any Sum not exceeding five Pounds, as the said Justices shall think fit and order, to be applied to the use of the Poor of their respective Parishes or Vill.

How the  
Poor shall be  
paid, and  
Controversies deter-  
min'd.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all persons Employed as aforesaid, shall be paid in Lawful Money of this Realm, and not in Cloath, Victuals, or other Commodities in lieu thereof; and all Wool delivered out to be wrought up, shall be so delivered, with declarations of the true Weight thereof, on pain that every Offender, in either of the said Cases, shall forfeit and pay to the said Workmen or Labourer, the value of what shall be due to him or them for such Work. And that all Controversies concerning Wages, Demands, Frauds, and Defaults of persons thus employed, shall and may be heard and determined, by any Two Justices of the Peace of the County, Liberty, City, or Town Corporate. And in case any person shall think himself Aggrieved, by the Judgment or Order of the said two Justices, he or they may Appeal to the Justices at the next Quarter Sessions held for the said County, Liberty, City, or Town Corporate, where if Judgment be given against the Appellant, the Justices may award such Costs to be paid by the said Appellant, as to them shall seem meet.

Concern-  
ing the O-  
verseers  
Accounts.  
43. Eli. c. 2.  
Method of  
Accounting.

1. And be it farther Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every the several and respective Overseers and Overseers above-mentioned, shall within Six Days after the end of their Year, and after other Overseers Nominated and Appointed as aforesaid, Make and yield up upon Oath, unto Two or more Justices of the Peace, in or next adjoining to the several and respective Parishes, Hamlets, Townships, or Vill aforesaid, upon Summons

by Warrant of any two or more Justices, a true and perfect Account in Writing, and signed by them, of all Sums of Money by them or any of them Received and Disbursed, or Rated and Assessed, and not Received; and also of such Stock as shall be in their, or any of their Hands, or in the Hands of any of the Poor to work, and of all other things concerning their said Office, which said Account shall be by the said Justices indorsed with their Names upon the Back thereof, and the Day and Year when such Account was received, and shall be by them, the said Justices or some of them, delivered in at the next General Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, and shall be Registered and Filed by the Clerk of the Peace of the said County, Riding, City, Town, Corporate or Precinct, without any Fee or Reward for the same; and such Sum or Sums of Money, and such Goods and Stock as shall be in the said Overseers, or any of their Hands, they shall pay and deliver over to the respective Overseers newly Nominated and Appointed, as aforesaid; and Duplicates of the Accounts signed by the old Overseers, shall be delivered to the new Overseers, and shall be by them filed, and also entered in a Book to be provided and kept in, and at the Charge of every such Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill respectively, as aforesaid: To which Book any Inhabitant, paying to the Church and Poor, may have Access, and may take a Copy of the said Account, without paying any Fee for the same. And in case any such Overseer or Overseers of the Poor shall be legally Convicted at the General Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, within the space of one Year after the bringing in of the said Account, for having defrauded the Poor, or the Parish or place aforesaid, of any part of the Moneys raised for the Relief or Imploymment of the Poor, or received by them for the Goods and Merchandizes so to be Manufactured as aforesaid, or for having Imbezzelled, Cancelled, Lost, or Destroyed any Parish Indenture, Certificate of any persons Habitation, Note of any persons coming to Settle, Bond, or other Parish Paper or Writing; that every such Overseer shall for every such Offence, forfeit any Sum not exceeding ten pounds, and also be compelled to make full Amends and Satisfaction to the said respective poor Parish or place aforesaid, for the Damage or Wrong sustained by any of the Offences before-mentioned; and the said Satisfaction shall be ascertained by the Jury by whom such Offender shall be convicted, and to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods of such Offender, upon Warrant from any two or more Justices of the Peace of the said County, Riding or Place, rendering to the party the Overplus, if any be. And in case the said Overseers or any of them shall Neglect or Refuse on such Summons as aforesaid, to bring in and deliver their Accounts to the said Justices, within the time aforesaid, or shall neglect or refuse to pay over and deliver to the new Overseers, the Overplus of the Money or Goods remaining in their Hands, together with a Duplicate of their Account, so to be given in to the Justices as aforesaid, and signed by them: That in every such Case it shall and may be Lawful for any two Justices of the Peace, to commit to Prison every one of the said Overseers which shall so neglect his Duty in the particulars above-mentioned, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until he hath made a true Account to the said Justices, and delivered a Duplicate thereof to the new Overseers, and satisfied and paid to them so much as shall be remaining in his or their Hands, as is above-mentioned and directed.

Penalty on  
Overseers  
for neglect  
of Duty.

And be it further Enacted, That all Indentures of Apprentices bound out by the Officers of any Parish or Place, Certificates of Inhabitants of other Parishes or Places, Notes of Persons coming to settle in any such Parish or Place, Bonds, and all other Parish Papers or Writings shall be by the said Overseers kept in the Church-Vestry, or other usual place of Meeting, in a Chest or Box, with two or more different Locks and Keys, to be provided by the said Overseers, at the Charge of the said Parish or Place, and each Overseer to have one Key thereof; and true Copies of the said Indentures, Certificates, Notes, Bonds, and all other Parish Papers and Writings, shall be by the said Overseers, at the Charge of the Parish, fairly entered in a Book to be provided for that purpose, to which Book every person paying to the Poores Levy, shall have at the Monthly

Provision for  
preserving  
Parish Papers  
and Writings.



Monthly Meetings free Access to Inspect or take Copies thereof, without any Fee or Reward; And the said Books, Writings and Keys, shall be Yearly delivered over by the said Overseers to the next succeeding Overseers, on pain that every Overseer neglecting his Duty therein, and being thereof Convicted by the Oath of two credible Witnesses, before any two Justices of the Peace for the said County, Riding or Place, shall forfeit to the Use of the Poor of the said Parish or place, for every such Offence, any Sum not exceeding Five pounds, to be Levied by Distress and Sale of the Offenders Goods, by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of the said Justices.

Penalty on Overseers for Neglect of Duty.

No Expences to be allowed in Overseers Accounts for Treats at Parish Meetings.

Concerning the Settlement of the Poor. What shall be a good Settlement.

2. And whereas it is become a practice in several Parishes and Places, at their Meetings or Vestries designed for the Execution of this Act, to spend great Sums of Money in Eating and Drinking, and place the same to the Account of the respective Parishes and Places, to the great Burthen of the said Parishes and Places, and very often to the Dishonour of Almighty God: For the prevention whereof, Be it Enacted and Declared, That no Sum whatever shall from henceforth be Charged or Allowed the said Overseers in their Accounts, upon pretence of any Expence at such Meetings.

1. And for the better Settling of the Poor, and Ascertaining what shall be Deemed a good and legal Settlement, It is hereby Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every person or persons, shall be Adjudged and Deemed to have a legal Settlement in any Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, of this Kingdom, in the Cases following, and no other; that is to say,

2. In case any person or persons were born in such Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, out of lawful Wedlock; or of Parents who were Vagrant, and had no place of legal Settlement.

3. Or in case the Parents, or the surviving Parent of any person or persons, had his, her, or their last legal Settlement in such Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, Whether such person or persons were there born or not.

4. Or in case any person or persons have any Lands or Tenements there, in his or their own Right, or in the Right of his or their Wives, or any Estate by Copy of Court Roll, or by any Lease or Leases, for Twenty One Years or more, determinable upon any Life or Lives.

5. Or if any person or persons have, bona fide, Hired or Rented within such Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, a Tenement of Ten pounds per Annum, or above, for a term not less than One Year.

6. Or in case any person or persons have, for him or themselves, and on his or their own Account, executed any Parochial Annual Office or Employment, during one whole Year, within the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill.

7. Or in case any person or persons have been publicly and fairly charged to, and paid the Parochial Taxes or Levies of the said Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, (unless he, she, or they, reside there only by force of having such a Certificate as is hereafter Allowed, or as a Miner or Collier employed there at Work in Mines and Coal-Works, (who may be charged to, and pay the said Parochial Taxes and Levies of such Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, where he, she, or they reside as Miner or Collier, or by Vertue of such a Certificate, and not thereby gain a Settlement.)

8. Or in case any person or persons shall have been Bound as an Apprentice by Indenture with an Householder settled in such Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, and shall have continued in such Apprenticeship during the space of two Years without being legally Discharged.

9. Or in case any person or persons being unmarried, and without Child or Children, shall have been lawfully hired as a Servant in any Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, with any person there legally Settled, and shall have continued in the same Service during the space of One whole Year; And in case the Master or Mistress of such Servant shall have several places of Residence during the time of such Service, such Servant shall be deemed to have his or her Settlement, in the Parish or place where his or her Master or Mistress resided during the greater part of the time of such Service.

10. Or in case any person or persons have delivered to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of any

Parish, or to the Overseers of any such Hamlet, Township or Vill, as aforesaid, or any of them, Notice in Writing of the House of his, her, or their Abode, and the Number of his, her, or their Family, if he, she, or they, have any, and have continued in the same Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, by the space of Forty days, after the publication of such Notice, in the Church or Chappel of such Parish or place, on some Lord's-Day, immediately after Divine Service.

11. Or in case any Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, hath by Certificate, under the Hands and Seals of the Overseers of the same Parish, or of the Overseers of such Hamlet, Township or Vill, or the greater number of them, Attested by two or more credible Witnesses, and Allowed and Subscribed by two or more Justices of the Peace, of the County, Riding, Liberty, City, or Town-Corporate, where the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill doth lie, acknowledged and owned any person or persons to be legally Settled in the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, and such person or persons have not afterwards obtained any other subsequent Settlement.

12. Or in case any person coming into any Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, by Vertue of such a Certificate, shall afterwards, bona fide, hire Ten pounds per Annum, and Occupy the same for one whole Year, or Execute any Parochial Annual Office or Employment during one whole Year, within the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill. In every such Case, the said person or persons shall be Adjudged to be legally Settled in the said respective Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, and not otherwise.

2. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That upon Complaint made by the Overseers of the Poor of any Parish, or of any such Hamlet, Township or Vill, in any large Parishes aforesaid, or by any other person Chargeable with the payment of any Sum to the Poors Rate of the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, to any two Justices of the Peace of the same County or Place, that any person or persons likely to be Chargeable to their Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, and not having his or their last legal Settlement there, is come and endeavours to Settle him, her, or themselves, in the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, in any Tenement under the Yearly Value of Ten pounds, without having such Certificate as is hereafter allowed, It shall and may be Lawful for the said two Justices of the Peace, after Examination of the said Complaint, by their Warrant to remove and convey such person or persons, to such Parish or place where he, she, or they, were last legally Settled, unless he, she, or they, give sufficient Security for the Discharge of the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, to be allowed by the said Justices.

3. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Overseer of the Poor to whom such Notice in Writing, as aforesaid, shall be delivered, shall read, or cause the same to be read publicly, in the Church or Chappel of such Parish or place, immediately after Divine Service, upon the next Lord's-Day after the delivery thereof, and cause the same to be Registered in the Book to be kept for that purpose, as aforesaid: And in case he shall neglect or refuse to cause the same to be published, or to be registred as aforesaid, he shall for every such Offence, in not publishing such Notice, (upon proof thereof by two credible Witnesses upon Oath, before any Justice of the Peace of the same County, Riding, Liberty, City or Town-Corporate, where Complaint thereof shall be made) forfeit the Sum of Forty Shillings, to the Use of the party grieved; And for every such Offence in not Registring the said Notice upon like proof thereof, he shall forfeit the Sum of Forty Shillings, to the Use of the Poor of the said Parish or place, to be Levied by Distress and Sale of the Offenders Goods, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any Justice of the Peace within the said Jurisdictions respectively, to the Constable of the Parish, Town or place where such Offender or Offenders dwell, the Overplus (if any be) to be returned to the Owner or Owners. And for want of such sufficient Distress, the said Justices shall commit him or them to the Common Goal of the said County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate, or place, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for the space of one Month.

13 & 14 Car. 2. c. 12. Power for Justices to remove the Poor to the last legal Place of Settlement.

Penalty on Overseers for not reading or registring the said Notice.

4. Provided



1 Jac. 2.  
3 & 4 W. & M.  
None in the  
Queen's Ser-  
vice to gain  
a Settlement  
by such No-  
tice.

4. *Provided* always, *And* be it further *Enacted*, That no Soldier, Seaman, Shipwright, or other Artificer or Workman, Employed in Her Majesties Service, during his continuance in such Service, nor any person residing by Vertue of a Certificate only, shall have any Settlement in any Parish, Hamlet, Port-Town, or other Town, Township or Vill, by delivery or publication of Notice in Writing as aforesaid.

8 & 9 W. 3.  
Persons ha-  
ving Certifi-  
cates may go  
to Work in  
other  
Parishes.

5. *And* to the Intent that persons may have the Liberty of going into other Parishes or places in time of Harvest, or where they meet with Opportunities of Work, or plenty of Manufactures, and yet be no Burthen to such Parish or places into which they come, Be it *Enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful for any person or persons whatsoever, that shall come into any Parish, or other place, there to Inhabit and Reside, to bring and deliver to the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish or place where any such person shall come to Inhabit, or to any or either of them, a Certificate under the Hands and Seals of the Overseers of the Poor of any other Parish, or of the Overseers of any other Hamlet, Township or Vill, or the major part of them, to be Attested respectively by two or more credible Witnesses, thereby owning and acknowledging the person or persons mentioned in the said Certificate, to be an Inhabitant or Inhabitants legally Settled in that Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, and to be Allowed of and Subscribed by two or more of the Justices of the Peace of the County, Riding, City, Liberty, Borough, or Town-Corporate, wherein the Parish or place from whence any such Certificate shall come doth lie, which Certificate shall be Registered in the Book to be kept for that purpose as aforesaid, by the Overseers to whom it was delivered, and shall be a sufficient Authority for such person or persons as are mentioned therein, to continue in the Parish or place to which such Certificate was given, and shall be deemed and taken to be an Inhabitant there to all intents and purposes, until he or they shall become burthenfome to the same, and no longer. *And* that whenever he, she or they, shall happen to become Chargeable to, or be forced to ask Relief of the Parish, Hamlet, Township, or place to which such Certificate was given, then, and not before, It shall and may be Lawful for two such Justices of the Peace of the said County, Liberty or Division, to remove and convey any such person or persons mentioned in such Certificate, and his or their Wife or Children, (tho' born in that Parish) to the Parish or place where the person or persons mentioned in such Certificate shall be last legally Settled, unless such person shall have, after the delivery of such Certificate, hired in the said Parish, Hamlet, Town or Vill, Ten pounds *per Annum*, and Occupy the same as aforesaid, or Executed any Parochial Annual Office or Imployment during one whole Year within the said Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill.

13 & 14 Car.  
2. ca. 12.  
Penalty on  
Persons not  
obeying Or-  
der for re-  
moval.

6. *And* be it further *Enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, That in case such person or persons, as shall be removed by the Warrant of such two Justices as aforesaid, shall refuse to go, or shall not remain in such Parish or place where they were, and ought to be Settled as aforesaid, but shall return of his or their own accord, to the Parish from whence he or they were removed, It shall and may be Lawful for any Justice of the Peace of the County, Riding, Place, City or Town-Corporate, where the said Offence shall be committed, to send such person or persons Offending to the House of Correction, there to be punished as a Vagabond, or to some publick Workhouse, there to be employed in Work or Labour.

Penalty on  
Overseers  
refusing to  
receive Per-  
sons remo-  
ved from  
Parish to  
Parish.

7. *And* if the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish or place to which he or they shall be removed, refuse to receive such person or persons, and to provide Work for them as for other Inhabitants there, any Justice of Peace of that Division, may and shall bind any such Officer or Officers in whom there shall be default, to the Assizes or Sessions there, to be Indicted for his or their Contempt in that behalf.

3 & 4 W. & M.  
Penalty on  
Overseers re-  
fusing to  
obey Orders  
of Removal  
from one  
County or  
Liberty to  
another.

8. *And* be it further *Enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person shall be Removed by virtue of this Act, from one County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate, or Liberty, to another, by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of two Justices of the Peace, the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish, Town, or Place to which the said person shall be so Removed, are hereby required to receive the

said person; and if he or they shall refuse or neglect so to do, he or they so refusing or neglecting (upon proof thereof by two credible Witnesses, upon Oath before any Justice of the Peace of the County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate, or place to which the said Person shall be so removed) shall forfeit for every Offence, the sum of five pounds, to the use of the Poor of the Parish, Town or place from which the said person was so removed, to be Levied by Distress and Sale of the Offenders Goods, on Warrant of any Justice of the Peace of the County, Liberty, City, or Town-Corporate to which such person was removed, to be directed to the Constable of the Parish or place where such Offender dwells, returning the Overplus, if any be, to the Owner; which Warrant such Justice is hereby Impowered and Required to make; and for want of sufficient Distress, to commit such Offender to the common Goal of the said County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate, or place, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, for the space of forty days.

9. *And* be it *Enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful for any two Justices of the Peace of any County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate, or place, to compel the Overseers of any Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, to provide for any person or persons legally settled in such Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, a convenient House or place of Dwelling, at such reasonable rate, as shall be approved on by the said Justices, or to give him or them a Certificate, according to this Act; and if the Overseers shall think themselves injured by the Judgment of the said two Justices, they may appeal to the next Sessions, whose Determination thereon shall be final, and no *Certiorari* shall be allowed therein.

10. *And* be it *Enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, That no *Certiorari* shall be granted or allowed for the Removing any Order relating to the Settlement of any person or persons, into any Superiour Court, unless the parties prosecuting such *Certiorari*, shall, before the Allowance thereof, find two sufficient Sureties, who shall enter into Recognizance before one of the Justices of the Court of Queen's Bench, or before one or more Justices of the Peace of the County, Riding, or place where such Order was made, in the Sum of 20 *l.* with condition to pay unto the persons on whose behalf such Order was made, in Case the Order so Removed, shall be confirmed by such Superior Court, such reasonable Costs as shall be assessed by the Justice or Justices of the Peace to whom such *Certiorari* was directed, within one Month after the Confirmation of such Order.

11. *And* be it further *Enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful for the Overseers of any Parish, or for the Overseers of any such Hamlet, Township, or Vill, as aforesaid, or the greater part of them, by the Assent of any two Justices of the Peace of the same County, City, Town-Corporate, or place, to bind any the poor Children of any person or persons who receive Collection, to be Apprentices to any Seafaring Man, or to persons using Husbandry, or to any other person or persons, where they shall see convenient to be Employed in Sea-service or Husbandry, or in or about the Household Affairs, or other Lawful Occasion of his or her Master or Mistress, till such Child or Children, if Males, shall come to the Age of twenty four Years, and till such Child or Children, if Females, shall come to the Age of one and twenty years, or shall Marry, the same to be as effectual to all purposes, as if such Child were of full Age, and by Indenture of Covenant, had bound him or her self; and that it shall be Lawful for all persons to whom any such Children shall be bound as Apprentices, as aforesaid, to take and receive and keep them as Apprentices; and they shall be obliged to receive and provide for them according to the Indentures signed and confirmed by the two Justices of Peace, and also to execute the other part of the said Indentures; and if he or she shall refuse so to do, Oath being thereof made by one of the Overseers of the Poor, before any two of the Justices of the Peace for that County or Liberty, he or she so refusing, shall for every such Offence, forfeit the Sum of ten pounds, to be Levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods of any such Offender, by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of the said Justices, the same to be applied to the use of the Poor of the Parish or place where such Offence was committed.

Power to  
compel O-  
verseers to  
provide Ha-  
bitations, or  
give a Certi-  
ficate to the  
Poor.

No *Certiorari*  
upon Order  
for Settle-  
ment of Poor,  
without  
Surety to  
answer Costs.

Concern-  
ing the  
Settling of  
poor Chil-  
dren Ap-  
prentices.  
43 El. c. 2.

1 Jac. 2.

8 & 9 W. 3.

And



Power to  
assign over  
Apprentices.

2. And be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful for the Master or Mistresses of any Apprentice bound out by the Officers of any Parish, Hamlet, Township, or Vill, according to the Directions of this Act, where he or she shall leave off his or her Trade, or the Executors or Administrators of such Master or Mistress, who shall die before the Expiration of the time of such Apprenticeship, with the Consent of two Justices of the said County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate, or place, by Indenture to Assign over and Bind such Apprentice for the Remainder of the said Term, to such person as, with the Consent aforesaid, shall be thought convenient; which person shall be obliged to take and provide for such Apprentice, during the residue of the said Term, and to execute the Counterpart of such Indenture, under the penalties hereinbefore appointed, for refusing to take and provide for such Apprentice at his or their first putting out.

7 Jan. 22. 3.

How Money  
given in per-  
petuity for  
setting out  
Apprentices,  
shall be em-  
ployed.

7 Jac. c. 3.

3. And to the Intent that such Moneys as have been already given, or hereafter shall be given, as a perpetual Fund or Stock, for the Binding out poor Children Apprentices to Husbandry, Trades, and other manual Occupations, whereby much Advantage may accrue to the Common-wealth, may continually hereafter remain and be wholly employed accordingly. Be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That all Sums of Money given at any time heretofore, or hereafter to be given by any person or persons, to be continually employed as a perpetual Fund or Stock, for the Binding out of Apprentices, as aforesaid, shall for ever from henceforth continue, and be from time to time used and employed to such Uses, Intents, and Purposes only, and by such persons, and in such manner and form as shall be hereafter by this present Act specified and declared, except the same have been, or shall be otherwise ordered or disposed by the Givers thereof (that is to say) That all Corporations of all Cities, Boroughs, and Towns-Corporate, by what name or names soever they shall be known or incorporated, and in all Parishes, and Places not incorporated, the Parson or Vicar of every such Parish or Place, together with the Constable or Constables, and Church-warden or Church-wardens, Collectors and the Overseers of the Poor, for the time being, or the major part of them, where any such Sum or Sums of Money are already given, or shall be hereafter given to be so employed, shall from time to time within the said several Cities, Boroughs, Parishes and Places, respectively, have the Nomination and placing of such Apprentices, and the Guiding and Employment of all such Moneys as have been heretofore so given, or which hereafter shall be given, to and for the continual Binding forth of such and so many Apprentices, and in such sort as is already, or shall hereafter be so given and appointed, either by the last Will and Testament, or by any Writing or Writings under the Hands and Seals of any person or persons which have already, or hereafter shall so give any Sum or Sums of Money unto the Good and Godly Purposes and Intents aforesaid.

Penalty for  
not employ-  
ing the same  
accordingly.

4. And if the Corporations of any such Cities, Boroughs, or Towns-Corporate, by what Name or Names soever they shall be Called or Incorporated, or any the person or persons in the other Towns, Parishes, and places above-mentioned appointed by this Act, to have continually the Guiding and Employment of such Sums of Money so already given, or hereafter to be given, to the intents and purposes aforesaid, shall at any time hereafter wilfully forbear or refuse, according to their Duties in that behalf, to employ such Sums of Money so given, or to be given as aforesaid, for the Binding out of such Apprentices, by means of which wilful forbearance or refusing, the said Money shall not be employed accordingly: That they and every of them so offending contrary to this Act, shall forfeit for every such Offence the Sum of Ten pounds, the one half whereof to the Parish or place where such Offence shall be committed, the other Moneys to the party that shall sue for the same, in any of her Majesties Courts of Record, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint or Information, wherein no Protection, Waiver of Law, or Efforger, shall be admitted or allowed.

Party re-  
ceiving  
bound to re-  
pay.

And for that all Moneys so given, may the better continue to and for the purposes aforesaid, be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Master, Mistress, or Dame of every such Apprentice or Apprentices that

shall receive any such Sum or Sums of Money, as aforesaid, shall become bound with one or more sufficient Sureties, by Bond or Obligation, in double the Sum which they and every of them shall so receive, with such Apprentice or Apprentices, as aforesaid, unto the Corporation of any such City or Town-Corporate, by what Name or Names soever they shall be Called or Incorporated, or to such person or persons in the other Towns, Parishes or places not Incorporated, appointed by this Act, to have continually the Guiding and Employment of all such Sums of Money so already given, or hereafter to be given, to the Intents aforesaid respectively, upon condition, to repay such Sum or Sums of Money as he or she shall receive, with such Apprentice or Apprentices, at the end of seven Years next ensuing the Date of the said Obligation, or within three Months next after the end of the said seven Years: And if such Apprentice shall happen to die within the said space of seven Years, then within one Year after his or her said Death; and if the Master, Mistress or Dame, to whom any such Apprentice or Apprentices shall be bound, shall happen to die within the said space of seven Years, then within one Year next after his or her Death, so as the said Moneys may be again employed for placing such Apprentice with some other person of the same Trade, to serve out the residue of the Years of his or her former Apprenticeship, by the Direction of the said persons trusted as aforesaid.

6. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That every such Sum or Sums of Money so given, or to be given, in manner and form, and to and for the good Uses and Intents aforesaid, shall always be put forth and employed by the parties aforesaid, that by this Act shall have the Disposing and Employment thereof, within three Months at the furthest, after such Money shall come to the Hands of the said parties, that by the Intent and true Meaning of this Act, ought to dispose and employ the same; and if at such times there shall not be found fit and apt persons to be bound out Apprentices, as aforesaid, within the said Cities, Parishes, and Places, where such Sums of Money are, or hereafter shall be given, to be employed as aforesaid, then such of the poorest Children of any of the Parishes next adjoining, shall be bound Apprentices in manner as aforesaid, as by the Care and good Discretions of the parties (which by this Act having the Disposing and Employment of the said Sums of Money in the Cities, Parishes, and Places where it was first given to be employed) shall be thought fit and convenient, taking such Bonds and Obligations of the persons that shall receive the same Sums of Money so put forth and with such Sureties, and upon such Conditions, as is above-mentioned and declared.

7. Provided always, and be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That Choice from time to time be made of the poorest sort of Children of every such City, Parish, or Place, where such Money shall be so given, and whose Parents are least able to relieve them; and that no such Apprentice shall be above the Age of fifteen Years when he or she shall be so first bound out an Apprentice.

8. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every person and persons appointed by this Act, to have the Employing and Disposing of any Sum or Sums of Money so given, or to be given as aforesaid, within any Parish or Place not Corporate, shall once in every Year in Easter Week, or within one Month next after Easter-day, make a true and perfect Account before two or more Justices of the Peace, dwelling in or next to every the said Parishes or Places of all such Sum and Sums of Money as they or any of them have employed in Binding of Apprentices, by Vertue of this Act; and of all Bonds and Obligations taken for the payment thereof; and also of all such Sums of Money as then shall happen to be remaining in their Hands not employed; and also shall at the making and yielding up of the said Account, or within ten days then next following, yield and deliver up unto such as shall happen next to succeed them, or then be in their said Rooms and Places, all such Obligations and Bonds, as by them or any of them have been before that time taken to the Uses aforesaid; as also all Sums of Money remaining in their or any of their Hands, to be employed as aforesaid, and not employed at the time of the yielding up of the said Account.

Within what  
time the Mo-  
ney shall be  
put forth.

What sort of  
Persons shall  
be set out  
Apprentices.

An Account  
to be given  
of the Money  
employed.



Remedy a-  
gainst per-  
sons break-  
ing this  
Trust.

9. And further be it Enacted by the Authority afore-  
said, That if any of the Parties Appointed and Trusted  
by this Act to have the Disposing and Employment of  
any of the said Sums of Money to given or to be given  
as aforesaid, shall in any point or degree break the Trust  
and Confidence in them in this behalf reposed, or shall  
commit any other Misdemeanour or Offence in Misap-  
plying of the said Sums of Money, or any part thereof,  
or in doing any other Act or Acts contrary to their Du-  
ties, and the true intent and meaning of this Act, for  
which there is nor by this Act any penalty given or ap-  
pointed, Then it shall and may be lawful for any person  
or persons whatsoever, in the behalf of the Poor of such  
City, Parish, or Place, to Exhibit his Petition to the  
Lord Chancellor, Lord-Keeper, or the Commissioners  
of the Great Seal of England for the time being, touch-  
ing the same: Which Lord-Chancellor, Lord-Keeper,  
or Lords-Commissioners of the Great Seal of England for  
the time being, shall thereupon have full Power and Au-  
thority to Award out a Commission out of the High  
Court of Chancery under the Great Seal of England, to  
such and so many persons as his Lordship shall think  
meet, to enquire, hear and determine the said Offences,  
and every of them: And if the said Commissioners, or  
the most part of them, shall find that any Sum or Sums  
of Money so given, or to be given, are lost, impaired,  
wasted, or diminished, then they, or the most part of  
them, shall likewise have power, by virtue of this Act,  
and of their said Commission, to Rate, Raise and Col-  
lect the said Sum of Money so lost, impaired, wasted  
or diminished, upon such person or persons in places not  
Corporate, as by this Act are appointed to have the Gui-  
ding and Ordering of the said Monies, if they or any of  
them have failed in their said Duties in that behalf, or  
otherwise, upon the able Inhabitants of such City, Parish,  
or Place, where the same shall so happen, as in the Dis-  
cretion of the said Commissioners, or the greatest part of  
them, shall be thought fittest, and to return the said Com-  
mission, and the manner of the Execution thereof, unto  
the said High Court of Chancery, within three Months  
next after the Execution thereof. And if any person or  
persons shall find himself grieved by any thing done by  
the said Commissioners, then upon Complaint thereof made  
in the High Court of Chancery, the said Lord-Chancellor,  
Lord-Keeper, or Lords-Commissioners for the time being,  
shall have full Power and Authority to Order and Decree  
the same, as to his or their Lordships shall be thought  
most fit to stand with Equity and good Conscience.

Concern-  
ing Ba-  
stards.  
18 El. ca. 3.

Two Justices  
to make Or-  
ders therein.

Penalty on  
Parties re-  
fusing to obey  
the Orders  
of the Justices.

10. And whereas Bastards begotten and born out of  
lawful Matrimony (an Offence against the Laws of God  
and Man) are oftentimes left to be kept at the Charges  
of the Parish where they are born, to the great Burthen  
of the same Parish, and in defaulting of the Relief of  
the Impotent and Aged, true Poor of the same, and to  
the Evil Example and Encouragement of lewd Life: For  
remedy whereof. Be it Enacted by the Authority afore-  
said, That two Justices of the Peace, in or next unto the  
Limits of the Parish where such Bastard shall be born,  
(upon Examination of the Cause and Circumstance) shall  
and may by their Discretion take Order, as well for the  
punishment of the Mother and reputed Father of such  
Bastard Child, as also for the better Relief of every such  
Parish, in part or in all: And shall and may likewise, by  
like Discretion, take Order for the keeping of every such  
Bastard Child, by Charging such Mother or reputed Fa-  
ther with the payment of Money Weekly, or other  
Sustentation for the Relief of such Child, in such wise as  
they shall think meet and convenient. And if after the  
same Order by them Subscribed under their Hands, any  
the said persons, viz. Mother or reputed Father, upon no-  
tice thereof, shall neglect or refuse to give such Security  
to perform the said Order, as shall be Approved on by  
the said Justices under their Hands, or if they think them-  
selves Agrieved by the said Order, shall refuse then to  
enter into Recognizance, with sufficient Sureties, before  
the said Justices, or one of them, to appear at the next  
General Sessions of the Peace to be holden in that Coun-  
ty where such Orders shall be taken, and also to Abide  
such Order as the said Justices of the Peace, or the Major  
part of them, then and there shall take in that behalf, (if  
they then and there shall take any) and that if at the said  
Sessions the said Justices shall take no other Order, then

to abide and perform the Order before made as is above-  
said, Then the said Justices or one of them, shall commit  
the person or persons so neglecting or refusing to the  
Common Goal, there to remain without Bail or Main-  
prize, until he or they do give such Security, or enter into  
Recognizance as aforesaid.

2. And be it Enacted by the Authority afore-  
said, That the Justices of Peace shall Commit every lewd Woman,  
which shall have any Bastard which may be Chargeable  
to any Parish or place, to the House of Correction, there  
to be punished and set on Work during the term of One  
whole Year: And if she shall so Offend again, that then  
she shall be Committed to the said House of Correction  
as aforesaid, and there remain until she can put in good  
Securities for her good Behaviour not to offend so again.

3. And whereas as well the Parents of Lawful Issue,  
as the putative Fathers and lewd Mothers of Bastard  
Children, frequently run away out of the Parish, and  
sometime out of the County, or die, and leave their Chil-  
dren or Bastards upon the Charge of the Parish, altho'  
such Parents, or putative Father and Mother, have Estate  
sufficient to Discharge such Parish, Be it Enacted by the  
Authority afore-  
said, That it shall and may be lawful for  
the Overseers of the Poor of such Parish, and for the  
Overseers of the Poor of such Hamlets, Townships or  
Vills, in large Parishes where any such Bastard Child  
shall be born, or where any such poor Child or Children  
shall be left, to take and seize so much of the Goods and  
Chattels, and to receive so much of the Annual Rents or  
Profits of the Lands of such Parents, or of such putative  
Father or lewd Mother, as shall be ordered by any two  
Justices of the Peace, for or towards the Discharge of the  
Parish, Hamlet, Township or Vill, to be Confirmed at the  
Sessions, for the bringing up and providing for such Ba-  
stard, or other Child or Children; and thereupon, it shall  
be lawful for the Sessions to make an Order for the Over-  
seers of the Poor of such Parish, Hamlet, Township or  
Vill, to dispose of the Goods by Sale, or otherwise, or so  
much of them, for the purposes aforesaid, as the Court  
shall think fit: And to receive the Rents and Profits of  
his or her Lands, or so much of them as shall be Or-  
dered by the Sessions as aforesaid.

4. And for the suppressing Rogues, Vagabonds, and  
sturdy Beggars, Be it further Enacted by the Authority

1. All Persons calling themselves Scholars, going  
about begging,

2. All Seafaring Men, pretending Losses of their  
Ships or Goods on the Sea, going about the Country  
begging,

3. All Soldiers and Mariners, Counterfeiting any  
Certificate, Licence or Testimonial, going about the  
Country begging, unless it be in the direct way, or  
during the time wherein he or they shall be Autho-  
rized to do, by a Licence or Testimonial, under the  
Hand and Seal of some Justice of Peace setting  
down the Time and Place of his or their Landing,  
the Place to which he or they are to pass, and limi-  
ting the time for such their passage,

4. All Idle Persons going about in any Country,  
either begging, or using any subtle Craft, or unlaw-  
ful Games or Plays, or feigning themselves to have  
knowledge in Physiognomy, Palmistry, or other like  
crafty Science, or pretending that they can tell Des-  
tinies, Fortunes, or such other like fantastical Imagi-  
nations,

5. All Persons that be, or utter themselves to be  
Proctors, Procurers, Patent-Gatherers or Collectors,  
for Prisons, Goals or Hospitals,

6. All Fencees, Bearwards, Common-players of  
Interludes and Minstrels, wandering abroad,

7. All Juglers, Tumblers, Glass-men, Pedlars, and  
Perry-Chapmen, wandering abroad,

8. All Wandering Persons and Common Labourers,  
being Persons able in Body, using Loveliness, and re-  
fusing to Work for such reasonable Wages as is Taxed,  
or commonly given in such Parts where such Persons  
do, or shall happen to dwell or abide, not having  
wherewith otherwise to Maintain themselves,

9. All Persons able to Work, who shall run away  
and leave their Children or Family to the Parish, or  
threaten so to do,

Punishment  
of lewd Wo-  
men, 7 Jac. 4.

Where the  
Rents and  
Goods of  
lawful Pa-  
rents, or the  
putative Fa-  
ther or Mo-  
ther of Ba-  
stards, may  
be seized in  
Aid of a Pa-  
rish.

Concern-  
ing Rogues,  
Vaga-  
bonds, and  
sturdy Beg-  
gars.

Who shall be  
deemed  
such.  
43 El. c. 3.

101 v. 101  
vol. 101  
101 v. 101

101 v. 101  
vol. 101  
101 v. 101

101 v. 101  
vol. 101  
101 v. 101

101 v. 101  
vol. 101  
101 v. 101



10. All Persons delivered out of Goals that beg for their Fees, or otherwise, do travel begging,

11. All such Persons as shall wander abroad begging, pretending Losses by Fire, or otherwise,

12. All Persons wandering, and pretending themselves to be Egyptians, or wandering in the Habit, Form, or Attire of Counterfeit Egyptians, shall be Taken, Adjudged and Deemed, Rogues, Vagabonds, and sturdy Beggars.

2. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Person who is by this present Act declared to be a Rogue, Vagabond or sturdy Begger, which shall be at any time hereafter taken begging, Vagrant, Wandering, or Misordering themselves, as aforesaid, in any part of this Realm, or the Dominion of Wales, shall forthwith be Apprehended by the Constable, or other Officer of the Parish where such Person shall be found so Begging, Wandering or Misordering himself, or by any other Person dwelling, or being in the same Parish; and upon his or their apprehension, shall by the said Constable, or other Officer, or by some other sufficient Person or Persons, whom he or they shall Order or Depute, be carried before the next Justice of the Peace of the said County, City, Liberty, or Place; and the said Justice, after diligent Examination, shall at his Discretion either cause such Person to be stripped naked from the middle upward, and to be openly Whipped, until his or her Body be bloody, or else to be sent to the House of Correction, there to be punished according to the Nature or Merit of his or her Offence; or else without Whipping, or sending to the House of Correction, cause such Person or Persons to be conveyed in manner as hereafter directed.

3. And the said Justices of Peace is likewise required to deliver to such Constable, or other Officer, a Warrant and Order under his Hand and Seal, describing the Person therein, for the conveying the said Person or Persons, either before his or their Whipping, or sending to the House of Correction, or else presently after his, her, or their Whipping, or Dismission from the House of Correction, (if such punishment was inflicted) within some convenient time to be limited and appointed by the said Warrant, the next straight way to the Parish or Place where he, she or they were born, if the same may be known by the Parties Confession, or otherwise: And if the same be not known, then to the Parish or Place where he, she, or they last dwelt, before the same Examination, by the space of one whole Year, there to put him or her self to Labour, as a true Subject ought to do; or not being known where he, she, or they were born, or last dwelt, then to the Parish or Place through which he, she, or they, last passed, without being Apprehended: And the Officers of the said Parish or Place where he, she, or they last passed through, without being apprehended, may convey the said Person (if they think fit) to the House of Correction of the Limit wherein the said Parish or Place standeth, or to the Common Goal of that County, or Place, there to remain, and be employed in Work, until he, she, or they, shall be placed in some Service, and so continue by the space of one Year, or not being able in Body, until he, she, or they, shall be placed to remain in some Work-House, or Alms-House, in the same County or Place.

4. And every Constable, or other Officer, is hereby required to convey such Person or Persons, or cause him or them to be conveyed without delay, to the Place directed by the Warrant or Order of such Justice of Peace, and to deliver him or them to the Officers of such Parish or Place, if such Parish or Place shall be in the same County where the said Constable or other Officer dwells; but if it be in another County, then the said Constable, or other Officer, shall convey, or cause to be conveyed, the said Person or Persons, to the first Town of the next County, or of the next Riding, Division, Liberty, or Franchise, where are kept separate Quarter-Sessions. Which Town shall likewise, in the said Warrant or Order, be mentioned, into or through which the said

Person or Persons are to pass, in their Way to the place to which they are to be conveyed, and there deliver the said Person or Persons to the Constable, or some other Officer of such Town, together with the said Warrant or Order, who is hereby required to receive the said Person or Persons, and to give the Party bringing him or them a Receipt for them, and afterwards, with all convenient speed, cause them to be carried to some Justice of the Peace of that County, or Precinct, who shall make the like Order for conveying him or them to the next County or Precinct, and so on, until he or they come to the place to which he or they are Ordered by such Warrant or Order to be conveyed.

5. And be it further Enacted, That every Person so to be conveyed, who shall on Examination before the Justice give a false account of his Place of Birth or Settlement, shall be committed to the House of Correction, by any Justice of the Peace of the County or Place, on Complaint of the Overseers, or any Inhabitant of the Parish, Town or Vill, to which he or they are brought by such Warrant or Order, until the true place be found.

6. And the said Justice of Peace is hereby further required to give the said Constable a Certificate, without Fee, of the number of such Persons whom he shall so Order to be punished or conveyed, as also the manner how, when, and from whence, such Persons are to be conveyed, whether by Cart, Horse, or Foot; and what number of Persons any such Constable or Officer had occasion to employ, to bring such Persons before him, or for conveying any such Person or Persons to the House of Correction, or to the place whether such Person or Persons shall be sent, as aforesaid.

7. And it is hereby further Enacted, That the Justices of Peace in their Quarter-Sessions, for each respective County, Riding, or Place, shall ascertain how much per Mile every Justice of Peace shall allow upon such Certificate, as aforesaid, for the conveyance of any such Person or Persons, by Cart, Horse, or Foot, respectively.

8. And to the Intent that every such Constable, or other Officer, may be fully paid and satisfied for his loss of time, and his expences in Apprehending, Relieving and Conveying such Rogues, Vagabonds, and other Idle and Disorderly Persons, Be it Enacted, That the said Justices of the Peace shall tax on the backside of such Certificate a reasonable and sufficient Allowance for such Constables, or other Officers trouble and expences, in Apprehending, Relieving, or Conveying such Rogues, Vagabonds, or other Idle and Disorderly Persons; which Certificate the said Constable, or other Officer, shall deliver to the chief Constable of that Division, together with the said Receipt from the Constable of the other County, who is hereby Ordered forthwith, out of the Sums of the Goal and Marshalsea-Money, which he shall receive, to pay such Constable, or other Officer, the Sum so Taxed upon each Certificate, and take a Receipt of such Constable, or other Officer, for the same; which Receipts the said Chief Constable shall deliver to the Treasurer of the County, at the next Quarter-Sessions, who shall discount the same with the said Chief Constable, taking in the said Receipts and Certificates: Which shall also be allowed him upon the General Account of the said Treasurer.

9. And in Case the said Goal and Marshalsea-Money be not sufficient (after having discharged the purposes for which it is raised) to reimburse the Expences, and satisfy the Allowances, as is hereby required,

10. It is hereby further Enacted, that the Justices of Peace in their Quarter-Sessions, shall have Power to raise Moneys upon their Respective Counties, Ridings and Places in which they are Impowered to Act by their Respective Commissions, in such manner as they shall think fit for County-Goals and Bridges, to satisfy the said Expences and Allowances which shall be specified by such Certificate, which Moneys so raised, shall Quarterly be paid to the Chief Constable of each Division, so as the said Chief Constables shall have a Quarterly Payment in their Hands before-hand, and as often as the said

Constable of other County to give a Receipt for Vagrants, Ann c.

Vagrants giving a false Account, to be committed to House of Correction.

Justice to give a Certificate to the Constable touching Vagrants for his reimbursement, 12 W. 3. c. 18.

Justices at Sessions to ascertain Expences for conveying Vagrants.

How Petty-Constables shall be reimbursed by High-Constables.

How Chief-Constable shall be reimbursed by the Treasurer.

That the Treasurer wants Money then Justices to raise it on the County.

El. c. 4. Rogues, Vagabonds, and sturdy Beggars, 12 W. 3. c. 18.

Justice to give a Certificate to the Constable touching Vagrants for his reimbursement, 12 W. 3. c. 18.

Where the Officers of a Parish may find Vagrants in Goal, or House of Correction, shall be placed in some Work-House, or Alms-House.

Constable to convey, and how.



Petty-Constables or Deputies shall produce the said Certificates and Receipts of his or their Expenses and Allowances, to the Chief Constable of their Division, under the Hand and Seal of the said Justice of Peace, the said Chief Constable is hereby required to pay the said Charges according to the said Certificate, which he shall take in and account for at the next Quarter-Sessions, as aforesaid.

Petty-Constables not to charge Inhabitants in this Case.

11. And it is hereby further Enacted, That the said Petty-Constables shall not charge the Inhabitants of his County with any Sum or Sums of Money, or any Provision towards the Relief or Conveyance for such Rogues and Vagabonds, or other idle and disorderly Persons.

Of dangerous Rogues

12. Provided always, and be it further Enacted, if any of the said Rogues shall appear to be dangerous to the inferior sort of People where they shall be taken, or otherwise be such as will not be reformed of their Roguish kind of Life by the Provisions aforesaid, That in every such case it shall and may be lawful for the said Justices of the Peace where any such Rogue shall be taken, or any two of them, to commit such Rogue to the House of Correction, or otherwise to the Goal of the same County, Riding, or Place, there to remain till the next Quarter-Sessions to be holden for such County, Riding, or Place; and then such of the same Rogues so committed, as by the Justices of the Peace then or there present, or the major part of them shall be thought fit, shall and may lawfully by them, or the major part of them, be banished out of this Realm, and at the Charge of the County, shall be conveyed to such of the English Plantations as the said Justices shall think meet, or in such other parts beyond the Seas, as shall be at any time hereafter for that Purpose assigned by the Privy-Council to Her Majesty, Her Heirs or Successors, or by any six or more of them, whereof the Lord Chancellor or Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, or the Lord Treasurer for the time being to be one.

To be banished.

Felony to return.

13. And if any such Rogues so Banished as aforesaid, shall return again into any part of this Realm or Dominion of Wales, without lawful Licence or Warrant for so do, that in every such Case such Offence shall be Felony, and the Party offending therein, shall suffer death as in case of Felony, the said Felony to be heard and determined in that County of this Realm or Wales in which the Offender shall be apprehended.

Rogues to be Branded with a Mark.

14. And for that the said Rogues having no Mark upon them to be known by, notwithstanding such Judgment of Banishment, may return or retire themselves to some other parts of this Realm where they are not known, and so escape the due Punishment intended to be inflicted upon them as aforesaid, for Remedy whereof, Be it Enacted, That such Rogues as shall be adjudged as aforesaid, incorrigible or dangerous, shall also by the Judgment of the same Justices, or the major part of them then present, in their open Sessions of the Peace, be Branded on the Left Shoulder with an hot burning Iron of the breadth of an English Shilling, and a great Roman R, upon the Iron, and the Branding upon the Shoulder to be so thoroughly burned and set on upon the Skin and Flesh, that the Letter R be plainly seen, and remain for a perpetual Mark upon such Rogues during his Life, and thereupon be banished as aforesaid.

General Search to be made for Rogues and Vagabonds.

15. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Justices of Peace of every County, Riding, City, Liberty, or Town-Corporate, or any two or more of them, some convenient time before any Quarter-Sessions of the Peace to be holden for the said County, Riding, City, or Liberty, or otherwise if need be, shall meet in their several Divisions to execute this Act, and shall by their Warrant command the Constable and Tything-Man of every Hundred, Town, Parish, Village, and Hamlet, within their several Divisions, who shall be assisted with sufficient Men of the same Places, to make a General Privy-Search in one Night within their said Hundreds, Towns, Villages and Hamlets, for the Finding and Apprehending of the said Rogues, Vagabonds, Wandering and Idle Persons, and such as they shall then find and apprehend in

the said Search, shall by them be brought before the said Justices at a Meeting or Special Sessions to be held for that Purpose, there to be examined of their idle and wandering Life, and to be punished, or otherwise by their Warrant to be sent or conveyed into the said House of Correction within the said County or Place appointed there to be delivered unto the Master or Governour of the said House or his Deputy, or Assignee to be set to Labour and Work, at which Meeting or Special Sessions to be held by the said Justices of Peace, the Constables and Tything-Men of every Hundred, Parish, Town, Village, and Hamlet, shall then appear before the said Justices of Peace at the said Assemblies and Meetings, and there shall give an Account upon Oath in Writing, what Rogues, Vagabonds, and Wandering and Disorderly Persons they have apprehended, both in the same Search, and also between such Assemblies and Meetings, and how many of them have been punished or sent into the Houses of Correction, or otherwise Conveyed, as is before directed: Which if the said Constables or Tything-Men shall neglect to perform, as also to convey safely all such Rogues, with all other idle and disorderly Persons, according to the Warrants of the Justices of Peace which they shall receive, That then they shall forfeit such Fines, Penalties, and Penalties, as by the said Justices of Peace, or the major part of them, shall be thought fit and convenient, not exceeding the Sum of Forty Shillings for every Offence.

16. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person or Persons having Charge in any Voyage in passing from the Realm of Ireland or Scotland, or from the Isle of Man, or from any the English Plantations abroad, into this Realm of England, do willingly or willingly Bring or Convey, or suffer to be Brought or Conveyed, in any Vessel or Boat, from or out of the said Realm of Ireland, Scotland, or Isle of Man, or any Foreign Parts, into the Realm of England, Wales, or any part thereof, any Vagabond, Rogue, or Beggar, or any such as shall be forced, or otherwise like to live by Begging within the Realm of England or Wales, being both in the same Realm or Island, on pain of every such Person so offending, to forfeit and lose for every such Rogue, Vagabond, Beggar, or other Person like to live by Begging, Five Pounds, to the use of the Poor of the said Parish on which they are set on Land: And if any such Man, Woman, or Child, or Foreign Rogue, Vagabond, or Beggar, be already, or shall at any time hereafter be set on Land, or shall come into any part of England or Wales, he or she shall be whipped in such sort as Rogues are appointed to be by this Act, and shall be conveyed to the next Port or Parish in or near which they were Landed or first came, and from thence to be transported at the common Charge of the County where they were set on Land, into those Parts from whence they came, or were brought, and every Constable, Headborough, and Tything-Man neglecting the due performance thereof, shall forfeit for every such Offence Twenty Shillings.

17. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That no diseased or impotent Person shall at any time return or repair from their Dwelling-places to the City of Bath, or Town of Bath, or either of them, to the Baths there, for the ease of their Griefs, unless such Person do first beg, and be licensed to pass the same by two Justices of the Peace of the County where such Person doth or shall then dwell or remain, and provided for to travel with such Relief for and towards his or her Maintenance, as shall be necessary for him or her for the time of such his or her Travelling and Abode at the City of Bath and Town of Bath, or either of them, and return thence, and shall return home again, as shall be Limited by the said Licence, upon pain to be repaid, punished, and used as Rogues, Vagabonds, and Stray Beggars, declared by this Act; and that the Inhabitants of the same City of Bath and Town of Bath shall not in any wise be charged by this Act with the Finding or Relief of any such poor People.

No Person shall be transported from the Land, Scotland, or the Isle of Man, that is likely to live by Begging.

On Penalty of Five Pounds.

How punished and re-conveyed.

Penalty for returning without licence.

Penalty for returning without licence.

Penalty for returning without licence.

Penalty for returning without licence.

Penalty for returning without licence.

Penalty for returning without licence.



Every person shall apprehend Rogues that resort to his house, and carry him to the Constable.  
1 Jac. c. 7.

Punishment of Officers not doing their Duty.  
39 El. c. 4.  
1 Jac. c. 7.  
11, 12, 14.  
3. c. 12.

Penalty on Persons disturbing the Execution of this Act.

Reward to Persons apprehending Rogues.  
13 & 14 C. 2.  
2. c. 12.

Reward to Persons apprehending Rogues at the Confiners of County.

18. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, that every Person shall apprehend, or cause to be apprehended, such Rogues, Vagabonds, and sturdy Beggars, as he or they shall see or know to resort to their Houses to beg, gather, or receive any Alms; and him, her, or them shall carry, or cause to be carried to the next Constable or Tything-Man, upon pain to forfeit for every Default Ten Shillings.

19. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That if in any Town, Parish, or Village, the Constable or other Officer do not his or their best Endeavours for the Apprehension of such Vagabond, Rogue, or Sturdy Beggar, which there shall be found, or be remiss or negligent in doing his Duty in Conveying or Punishing him when apprehended, as this Act requires, That then the said Constable or other Officer in whom such Default shall be, shall loose and forfeit for every such Offence, twenty Shillings, one fourth whereof shall go to the Informer, and the other three parts to the use of the Poor of the Parish or Place where such Offence shall be committed, the same to be Levied by Distress and Sale of the Offenders Goods, by Warrant, under the Hand and Seal of any Justice of Peace of the said County, City, or Liberty, who may hear and determine the said Offence upon the Oath of one Witness.

20. And if any Person or Persons do in any wise disturb or let the Execution of this Law, or any part thereof, concerning the Apprehending, Punishment, or Conveying of Rogues, Vagabonds, and sturdy Beggars, or the Relief or Settling of the poor impotent Persons, or by making Rescous against any Officer or Person authorized hereby, for the due Execution of any the Premises, the same Person so offending, shall forfeit and loose for every such Offence, the Sum of five Pound, and be bound to his good behaviour.

21. And for the Encouragement of such Person or Persons as shall apprehend Rogues, Vagabonds, and sturdy Beggars, after they have passed thro' any Parish unapprehended, Be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Justice of the Peace to whom any Rogue, Vagabond or sturdy Beggar so apprehended, shall be brought, to reward any Person or Persons that shall so apprehend any Rogue, Vagabond or sturdy Beggar, by granting unto such Person or Persons, an Order or Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to the Constable or other Officer of such Parish or Place where such Rogue, Vagabond, or sturdy Beggar passed thro' unapprehended, requiring him to pay such Person or Persons the Sum of two Shillings for every Rogue, Vagabond, or sturdy Beggar, which shall be so apprehended; and if such Constable or other Officer refuse or neglect to pay the two Shillings as aforesaid, that then the said Justice of Peace, or any other Justice or Justices of Peace shall proceed against such Constable, Headborough or Tything-Man, to compel him to pay the Sum of Twenty Shillings for remissness and neglect; and to allow out of the same the said two Shillings, and such reasonable recompence for trouble and loss of time, as such Justice or Justices shall think fit, to the Person apprehending such Rogue, Vagabond, or sturdy Beggar, to be Levied by Distress and Sale of the Offender's Goods, returning the Overplus to the Owner, if any be.

22. And if any Person or Persons shall apprehend any Rogue, Vagabond, or sturdy Beggar at the Confiners of any County, which passed through any Parish of another County unapprehended, it shall be lawful for any such Person or Persons, to go to some Justice of Peace of that County thro' which such Rogue, Vagabond or sturdy Beggar passed unapprehended, who is hereby required (upon Certificate under the Hand of some Justice of Peace of the County where such Rogue, Vagabond, or sturdy Beggar was so apprehended) to grant his Order or Warrant under his Hand and Seal, requiring the said Constable, or other Officer, to pay unto any Person or Persons aforesaid, the Sum of two Shillings, which if he refuse or neglect to do, then such Justice is hereby required to proceed against such Constable or other Officer, and to cause him to pay the Sum of twenty Shillings, as aforesaid, and out of the same to allow two

Shillings, and so much for expence and loss of time, as the said Justice shall think fit, to such Person or Persons as shall apprehend such Rogue, Vagabond or sturdy Beggar, to be Levied by Distress and Sale of the Offenders Goods, returning the Overplus, if any be.

23. And whereas the Laws and Statutes for the apprehending of Rogues and Vagabonds, have not been duly executed, sometimes for want of Officers, by reason that Lords of Mannors do not keep Court-Leets every Year for the making of them, or do not take care to elect and swear Constables, Be it therefore Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case any Constable, Headborough, or Tything-Man shall die, or go out of the Parish, and another shall not be sworn in due time at any Court-Leet, any two Justices of the Peace may make and swear a new Constable, Headborough, or Tything-Man, until next Quarter-Sessions, who shall approve of the said Officers so Made and Sworn as aforesaid, or appoint others as they shall think fit; And if any Officer shall continue above a Year in his or their Office, That then in such Case the Justices of Peace in their Quarter-Sessions, may discharge such Officers, and may put another fit Person in his or their Place, until the Lord of the said Mannor shall hold a Court-Leet.

24. Provided always, that Children under the Age of seven Years, shall not be construed or taken to be Vagabonds within this Statute.

25. Provided also, That nothing in this Act in relation to the poor People for the time being, in the Hospital called St. Thomas Hospital, otherwise called the King's Hospital, in the Borough of Southwark, near adjoining to the City of London, shall hinder but that the Mayor, Commonalty, and Citizens of the said City of London, for the time being, shall and may have the Rule, Order, and Government of the said Hospital, and of the poor People therein, for the time being, any thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

26. Provided always, that this Act or any thing therein contained, or any Authority thereby given, shall not in any wise extend to disinherit, prejudice, or hinder the Heirs or Assigns of John Dutton, of Dutton in the County of Chester, Esq; for, touching or concerning any Liberty, Preeminence, Authority, Jurisdiction, or Inheritance, which they lawfully may or ought to use within the County Palatine of Chester, and the County of the City of Chester, or either of them, allowing Minstrels, and for Government of Minstrels there, and keeping a Court yearly for that Purpose, or otherwise by reason of any ancient Charters of any Kings of this Land, or by reason of any Prescription, Usage, or Title whatsoever.

1. And for the more effectual providing for the erecting of Houses of Correction, and suppressing and punishing of Rogues, Vagabonds, and other Idle, Vagrant and Disorderly Persons, Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That there shall from time to time be erected, built, or otherwise provided, within every County or Riding of this Realm of England and Wales, (where there are not sufficient number of Houses of Correction already built, purchased, provided or continued) one or more fit House or Houses of Correction, with convenient Backsides thereunto adjoining, together with Mills, Turns, Cards, and such like necessary Implements, to set the said Rogues, Vagabonds, and such other idle persons on Work, the same Houses to be built, erected or provided, in some convenient Place or Town in every County or Riding, which House or Houses shall be purchased, conveyed or assured, unto such person or persons as by the Justices of Peace, or the most part of them, in their Quarter-Sessions of the Peace to be holden within every County or Riding of this Realm of England and Wales, upon trust, and to the intent the same shall be used and employed for the keeping, correcting, and setting to Work of the said Rogues, Vagabonds, and sturdy Beggars, and idle and disorderly Persons.

2. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That within every County within this Realm of England and Wales, where no such House of Correction and Backside shall be erected, purchased or provided as aforesaid.

Constables how made in default of Court-Leet.  
13 and 14 Car. 2. c. 12.

Children no Vagrants.

39 El. c. 4.  
Saving for St. Thomas Hospital, Southwark.

Saving for the Heirs of John Dutton, Esq.

Concerning Houses of Correction.  
7 Jac. c. 4.  
Power to erect them.

Penalty on Justices where no House of Correction is erected.



aforsaid, every Justice of the Peace of the said County shall forfeit for his said neglect Five pounds of lawful English Money, the one Moiety thereof to be unto him or them, that will sue for the same by Action of Debt, Plaint, or Information, in which Suit no Protection, Escoign, or Wager of Law, shall be admitted; and the other Moiety thereof to be employed and bestowed towards the erecting, building, procuring or providing the said House and Backside, and such necessary Implements as aforesaid.

Power for  
Justices of  
Corporations  
to erect  
Houses of  
Correction.

3. And be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the Peace of any City, Liberty or Town-Corporate, assembled at any Quarter-Sessions to be held within such City, Liberty, or Town-Corporate, on the major part of them, to set down, Order to erect, and to cause to be erected one or more Houses of Correction within their respective Limits, in the manner, and to the Purposes aforesaid.

Power of  
Justices to ap-  
point Govern-  
ours of  
Houses of  
Correction.

4. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Justices of Peace of every County and Riding, as likewise of every City, Liberty, and Town-Corporate, where any such House or Houses of Correction shall be erected, provided or continued, within the Realm of England and Wales, at their several and respective Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, or the most part of them, shall and may from time to time, elect, nominate and appoint, at their Will and Pleasure, one or more honest fit person or persons to be Governour or Master, Governours or Masters of the said House or Houses, so to be purchased, erected, built or provided: And shall and may from time to time, set down such Orders as they shall think fit for the doing and performing of the Premises, and for the providing of a Stock of Money, and all other things necessary for the same, and for Regulating and Governing thereof, and for the Correcting and Punishing of Offenders thither to be Committed: Which Orders shall be duly performed and put in Execution, and such person or persons so chosen to be Governour or Master, Governours or Masters of the said House or Houses, of Correction, shall have Power and Authority to set such Rogues, Vagabonds, Idle and Disorderly Persons, as shall be brought or sent unto the said House or Houses, to Work and Labour (being able) from time to time, for such time as they shall continue, and be remaining in the said House or Houses of Correction, and to punish the said Rogues, Vagabonds, Idle and Disorderly persons, by putting Fetters or Givies upon them, and by moderate Whipping of them.

And to make  
Orders.

Governours  
power.

5. And that the said Rogues and Vagabonds, and Idle Persons, during such time as they shall continue and remain in the said House or Houses of Correction, shall in no sort be Chargeable to the Country for any Allowance, either of their bringing in or going forth, or during the time of their Abode there, but shall have such and so much Allowance as they shall deserve by their own Labour and Work.

The said  
Rogues not  
to be charge-  
able to the  
Country.

Governours  
Allowance.

6. And for that it is convenient that the Masters or Governours of the said Houses of Correction, should have some fit Allowance and Maintenance for their trouble and care to be had in the said Service, as also for the relieving of such as shall happen to be weak and sick in their Custody; And that the Subjects of this Realm should in no sort be over-charged to raise Money for Stocks, to set such on Work as shall be committed to their Custody, Be it therefore Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Masters or Governours of the said Houses of Correction, shall have such Sums of Money yearly as shall be thought meet by the most part of the said Justices of Peace at their respective Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, the same to be paid Quarterly beforehand by the Treasurers of the respective Counties and Places during the time such Masters and Governours shall be employed in the said Service, (the said Masters or Governours giving sufficient Security for the continuance and performance of the said Service) which if the said Treasurer shall neglect or refuse to perform, that then the said Masters or Governours of the Houses of Correction, and every of them, shall have Authority hereby to levy the same, or so much thereof as shall be unpaid upon the Treasurers Account, in such manner and form as by this Act they the said Treasurers are appoint-

How to be  
Levied.

ted and authorized to levy the Weekly Sum or Payment being to them unpaid.

7. And because there shall be the more care taken by all such Masters of the Houses of Correction for the performance of their Duties, Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if they shall not every Quarter-Sessions yield a true and lawful Account unto the Justices of Peace, of all such persons as have been committed to their Custody; or if the said persons committed to their Custody, or any of them, shall be troublesome to the Country by going abroad, or otherwise shall escape away from the said House of Correction, before they shall be from thence lawfully delivered: That then the said Justices shall set down such Fines and Penalties upon the said Master and Governour as the most part of them, in their Quarter-Sessions, shall think fit and convenient: Which Fines and Penalties shall be paid unto the Treasurer or Treasurers of the said respective Counties and Places, and by him or them accounted for.

Governours  
shall give  
Account to  
Justices.

Penalty for  
neglect of  
Duty.

8. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Lord Chancellor or Keeper of the Great Seal of England, or Commissioners to be appointed for the keeping thereof for the time being, shall and may at all times hereafter, by Virtue of this present Act, without further Warrant, make and direct Commission or Commissions, under the Great Seal of England, to any person or persons giving them, or some of them, thereby Authority, as well by the Oaths of good and lawful Men as of Witnesses, or Examination of Parties, or by any other lawful Ways and Means whatsoever, to enquire what Sums of Money, or other things, have been, or shall be collected or gathered for or towards the erection of any Houses of Correction, or any Stocks, or other things, to set the Poor on Work, or for the Maintenance thereof at any time, and by whom the same were or shall be collected or gathered, and to whose hands come, and to what use, and by whose direction the same was or shall be employed; and to call all and every such person and persons, and their Sureties, and every of their Executors or Administrators, to an Account, and to compel them, and every of them, by Attachment of their Goods and Bodies, to appear before them for the same, and to hear and determine the same, and to levy such Money and Things as they shall find not to have been duly employed upon the said Houses of Correction or Stocks, or upon other like uses, (having in such other like uses respect of things past by the said Commissioners to be allowed) either by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such persons as they shall think fit to be Chargeable or Answerable for the same, or by Imprisonment of their Bodies at their Discretion. And that the said Commissioners shall have full Power and Authority to execute the said Commission, according to the tenor and purpose thereof; and that all their Proceedings, Doings, Judgments and Executions by Force and Authority thereof, shall be and remain good and available in the Law, which said Money so levied by the said Commissioners shall be delivered and employed for the Erecting or Maintenance of the same.

Chancery to  
Issue out  
Commissions  
to enquire of  
Money given  
to Houses of  
Correction,  
or for Stocks  
to the Poor.

By Act  
Penalty

Penalty  
limited

9. And for preventing Lewd and Licentious Persons from wandering up and down in all Parts of the Realm, under the Name of Soldiers and Mariners, whereby heinous Outrages and Robberies have been frequently committed, Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That where any Mariner or Seafaring person shall be Shipwreck'd, or otherwise set on shore, or any Soldier lawfully Discharged from Her Majesties Service beyond the Seas, shall land in England or Wales, and apply themselves to any Justice of the Peace near to the said place where they so landed, or were set on shore, the said Justice shall, on Examination of the said persons, make an Order for the careful conveyance of such Seafaring Person or Soldier to the place of his Settlement, but in the manner as by this Act is directed for the conveying of Vagrants.

Concern-  
ing Sol-  
diers and  
Seamen.

Clause for  
conveying  
Mariners and  
Soldiers to  
the Place of  
their Re-  
sidence.

10. Provided also, and be it further Enacted, That when any Soldier or Mariner coming from the Seas, or beyond the Seas, as aforesaid, shall arrive at the Parish or Place of his Dwelling or Birth, according to the purport of this Act, and cannot of himself get there any Work where-

Relief for  
Soldiers and  
Seamen.

For Ne-  
payme-  
Dittres  
Sale.



by to employ himself to Labour, or other lawful Course of life as aforesaid. That then, in every such Case, upon complaint made by such Soldier or Mariner, to two Justices of the Peace of the said County, or of near the said place, the said two Justices shall take Order by their Discretion to set such Soldier or Mariner to some such honest Labour or Work as to them shall be thought meet, and for want of such Work, the said two Justices shall Tax the said Parish or Place by their Discretion, for the Relief of such Soldier or Mariner, till such sufficient Work may be had.

3. And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every such Soldier or Mariner having lost his Limbs, or being disabled in Body during his Service under Her Majesties pay, or who shall return into this Realm hurt or maimed, or grievously sick from Her Majesties Service, and shall bring with him a Certificate under the Hand and Seal of the General of the Camp, or Governor of the Town wherein he served, and of the Captain of the Band under whom he served, or his Lieutenant; or in the absence of the said General, or Governor, from his Marshal or Deputy, or from any Admiral of Her Majesties Fleet; or in his absence, from any other General of Her Majesties Ships at Sea, or in the absence of such General, from the Captain of the Ship wherein he did serve, containing the particulars of his Hurts and Services, shall apply to one of the Treasurers of the County or Place, whether he shall be carried and conveyed in manner aforesaid, who shall and may assign him such Relief, until the next Quarter-Sessions to be held for the said County, as they shall think convenient, with regard to the nature of his Hurt, and commendations of his Service. And the Justices of Peace of the next Quarter-Sessions, may by an Instrument under their Hands, or the Hands of the major part of them, assign for the Relief of such Soldier or Mariner, such annual Pension as they shall think meet to continue during his life, or until the same shall be altered or revoked, which shall be a sufficient Warrant to the Treasurers of the said County, or any of them, to pay such Pension to such Soldier or Mariner quarterly, while the same shall continue payable.

4. Provided nevertheless, That such Pension to be allowed to any Soldier or Mariner, who hath not born Office in the Wars, shall not exceed the Sum in Gros, or Yearly payment, of ten pounds; nor to any that hath born Office, under the Degree of a Lieutenant, the Sum of fifteen pounds; nor to any that hath served in the Office of a Lieutenant, the Sum of twenty pounds. And that it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the Peace of the said County or Place, at the General Quarter-Sessions, upon any Just Cause, to revoke, diminish, or alter such Pension as they shall see fit.

1. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, that the Justices of Peace of every County, Riding, or Place, or the Major part of them, in their General Sessions, to be holden next after the Feast of Easter, and so yearly as often as they shall think meet, shall rate every Parish to such a Weekly Sum of Money as they shall think convenient, so as no Parish be rated above the Sum of two Shillings, nor under the Sum of Ten-pence-half-penny, Weekly, to be paid; and so as the Total Sum of such Taxation of the Parishes in every County, amount not to above the rate of sixteen-pence Weekly, for every Parish, one with another, within the said County, which Sums so Taxed shall be yearly assessed by the Agreement of the Parishioners within themselves, or in default thereof, by the Petty-Constables of the same Parish, or in their Default, by the Order of such Justice or Justices of the Peace as shall dwell in the same Parish, or if none there be dwelling, in the parts next adjoining.

2. And if any person shall refuse or neglect to pay any such proportion of Money so Taxed, it shall be lawful for the said Constables, or any of them, or in their default, for any Justice of the Peace of the said Limit, to levy the same by Distress and Sale of the Goods of the party so refusing or neglecting, rendering to the party the Overplus; and in default of such Distress, it shall be lawful for any Justice of that Limit to commit such per-

son to the said Prison, there to abide without Bail or Mainprize, till he hath paid the same.

3. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Justices of Peace at their General Quarter-Sessions to be holden at the time of such Taxation, shall set down what competent Sums of Money shall be sent Quarterly out of every County, Riding, or Place, for the Relief of the poor Prisoners of the King's Bench and Marshalsea, and also of Common Goales, and such Hospitals and Almshouses as shall be in the said County, and what Sums of Money shall be sent to every one of the said Common Goales, Hospitals, and Almshouses (so as there be sent out of every County yearly twenty Shillings at the least, to each of the said Prisons of the King's Bench and Marshalsea) and what Sums of Money shall be disposed towards the Relief of such hurt and maimed Soldiers and Mariners, who have been, or shall be deprived of their Limbs, or disabled in their Bodies, being in pay in her Majesties Service, which Sums rateably to be assessed upon every Parish; the Petty-Constables of every Parish shall timely collect and pay over to the High-Constables in whose Division such Parish shall be situate from time to time Quarterly, ten days before the end of every Quarter; and every such High-Constable at every Quarter-Sessions in such County, shall pay over the same to the Treasurers of the said County, or to one of them.

4. And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That at every Easter-Sessions to be holden in any County, Riding, City, Town, or Place-Corporate, the Justices of Peace of the said County, Riding, City, Town-Corporate or Place, shall yearly elect two of themselves, or of other sufficient Persons, to be Treasurers of the said County, City, Town-Corporate or Place, and the said Treasurers so elected, shall continue for the space of one whole Year in their Office, and then give up their Charge, with a due Account of their Receipts and Disbursements at the Quarter-Sessions to be holden next after the Feast of Easter, in every Year, to such others as shall from Year to Year, in the form aforesaid, successively be elected Treasurers for the said County, City, Town-Corporate, or Place, which said Treasurers, or one of them, shall pay over the Moneys by them, or either of them, received for the Prisons of the King's Bench and Marshalsea, to the Lord-Chief-Justice of England and Knight-Marshal for the time being, equally to be divided for the Uses aforesaid, taking their Acquittance for the same, or in default of the said Chief-Justice, to the next ancientest Justice of the Queen's Bench, as aforesaid; and if any Petty-Constables or High-Constables, or his or their Executors or Administrators, shall fail to make payment in form above specified, then every Petty Constable, his Executors or Administrators so offending, shall forfeit for every time, the Sum of forty Shillings, and every High-Constable, his Executors or Administrators, shall forfeit for every time the Sum of forty Shillings; the same Forfeitures, together with the Sums behind, to be Levied by the said Treasurer or Treasurers, by way of Distress and Sale of the Offenders Goods, in form aforesaid, and by them to be employed towards the charitable uses aforesaid.

5. And be it further Enacted, That if any Treasurer elected shall wilfully refuse to take upon him the said Office of Treasurership, or refuse to distribute and give Relief, according to this Act, or in Case he or his Executors or Administrators shall refuse to account according to such form as shall be appointed by the major part of the said Justices, or to pay the Arrears which shall be due upon such Account, or shall wilfully dispose the County Moneys in his or their Hands, to his own private advantage, or be otherwise negligent in the Execution of his or their Charge, that then it shall be lawful for the Justices of Peace in their Quarter-Sessions, or in their default, for the Justices of Assizes at the Assizes to be holden in the same County, to fine the same Treasurer by their Discretion, the same Fine, not to be under five Pounds, and to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Offenders Goods, to be prosecuted by any two Justices of the Peace whom they shall Authorize for that purpose.

6. And

Justices at Sessions to appoint what Sums be sent to King's Bench, Marshalsea, and Prisons.

43 El. c. 3.

Who to collect the said Money.

Treasurers to be chosen yearly.

To Account to Sessions.

Treasurer to pay to Chief-Justice and Knight-Marshal.

Forfeiture of Petty and High-Constables, for non-payment to Treasurer.

Penalty on Treasurer for neglect of Duty.

43 El. c. 2.

How maim'd Soldiers and Mariners shall be relieved.

43 El. c. 3.

By Annual Pensions.

Pensions how limited.

Concerning Assessments for the King's Bench, Marshalsea, Hospitals and Almshouses, and concerning the Treasurer and County-Stock.

43 El. c. 2.

Power of Sessions to rate Parishes for the Purposes aforesaid.

14 El. c. 5.

43 El. c. 3.

For Non-payment, Distress and Sale.



Surpluses  
of County  
Stock to be  
employed in  
Sessions shall  
direct.

6. And be it further Enacted, That all Surpluse Money which shall be remaining in the said Stock of any County, and all Fines, Penalties, and Forfeitures, to be forfeited by any Treasurer, Collector, Constable, Headborough, or other Person employed in the Collecting and Disposing of the said Stock, shall by discretion of the more part of the Justices of Peace in their Quarter-Sessions, be Ordered, Distributed, and Bestowed for the Relief of the poor Hospitals of that County, of maimed Souldiers or Mariners, and of those that shall sustain Losses by Fire, Water, the Sea, or other Casualties, and to such other Charitable Purposes, for the relief of the Poor, as to the more part of the said Justices of Peace shall seem convenient.

Chief Officers  
of Corporations  
shall execute  
this Act  
there.

43 El. c. 3.

7. Provided always, that it shall be lawful for the Mayor and Justices of the Peace in every City, Borough, Place, and Town-Corporate, to appoint any Person for the receiving of the said Money, and paying the same within such City, Borough, Place, or Town-Corporate, which Person so appointed, shall have Authority to do all such things, and be subject to all such Penalties as High-Constables, by virtue of this Act, have or be.

London to  
increase the  
Rate there.

8. Provided always, and be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if the said Rate shall be thought not to be sufficient for the Relief of such Soldiers or Mariners, Common-Goals, Hospitals and Alms-Houses, as shall be to be Relieved within the City of London, that then it shall be lawful for the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of London, or the most part of them, to Rate and Tax such reasonable Tax, Sum and Sums of Money, for the said Relief, as shall be to them thought fit and convenient, so as such Sums of Money so to be Taxed, do not exceed Three Shillings Weekly out of any Parish; and so as in the Total, this Sum shall not exceed, or be under One Shilling Weekly out of every Parish one with another, within the said City and Liberties thereof.

Treasurer to  
keep a Register  
there.

43 El. c. 3.

9. And be it further Enacted, That the Treasurers of the several Counties and Places shall keep a true Book of Accompt, of all such Sums as they shall Levy or Receive; and also a Register of the Names of all such whom they shall Relieve, and shall keep or enter every Certificate by Warrant, and whereof they shall distribute any Relief, and shall Subscribe the Cause of his not accepting any Certificate which he shall refuse and disallow.

Concern-  
ing Hospi-  
tals.

39 El. c. 5.  
2 Ja. c. 1.

Any Person  
may erect an  
Hospital, or  
House of Cor-  
rection.

1. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Person and Persons, Bodies-Politick and Corporate, capable in Law to make any Purchase or Contract, and being seized of any Estate in Fee-simple, their Heirs, Executors or Assigns, shall have full Power, Strength, Licence, and lawful Authority, at any time hereafter, by Deed enrolled in the High Court of Chancery, to Erect, Found and Establish, one or more Hospitals, *Maisons de dieu*, Abiding Places, or Houses of Correction, at his or their Will and Pleasure, as well for the finding Sustentation and Relief of the Maimed, Poor, Needy, or Impotent People, as for the setting the Poor to Work, and punishing all Lazy, Idle and Disorderly Persons therein abiding, to have Continuance for ever, or for such time, or number of Years, as to the said Person or Persons, Bodies-Politick or Corporate, shall seem meet; and from time to time, to place therein such Head and Members, and such number of Poor, as to him or them, his or their Heirs, or Assigns, shall seem convenient.

Founder may  
incorporate  
the same.

2. And that such Hospital, *Maison de dieu*, Abiding Place, or House of Correction, and the Persons therein placed, shall be Incorporated, Named, and called by such Name as the said Founder or Founders, his Heirs, Executors, or Assigns, shall so Limit, Sign and Appoint: And the same Hospital, *Maison de dieu*, Abiding-Place, or Houses of Correction so Incorporated, shall be a Body-Politick, and shall by that Name of Incorporation have full Power, Authority, and lawful Capacity and Ability,

to purchase, take, hold, receive and enjoy, and have to them and their Successors for ever, or during the continuance thereof, as well Goods and Chattels, Mannours, Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments, whether Free hold, Copy hold, or Lease hold, of any Person or Persons whatsoever, so that the same exceed not the Yearly Value of Five hundred pounds above all Charges and Reprizes to any one such Abiding-House, Hospital, *Maison de dieu*, or House of Correction, without any Licence or Writ of *ad quod damnum*, the Statute of Mortmain, or any other Statute or Law to the contrary notwithstanding.

And endow  
it, not ex-  
ceeding 500l.  
per Annum.

3. And that the same Hospital, *Maison de dieu*, Abiding-Place, or House of Correction, and the Persons so being Incorporated, and Founded and Named, shall have full Power and lawful Authority, by the true Name of the Incorporation thereof, to Sue, be Sued, Implead, and to be Impleaded, to answer and to be answered unto, in all manner of Courts and Places that now are, or hereafter shall be within this Realm, as well Temporal as Spiritual, in all manner of Suits whatsoever, and of what nature or kind soever such Suits or Actions be, or shall be. And that the same Hospital, *Maison de dieu*, Abiding-House, or Houses of Correction, shall have and enjoy such a Common-Seal or Seals, as by the said Founder or Founders, his or their Heirs, Executors or Assigns, shall be in Writing under his or their Hand and Seal, assigned, named or appointed, whereby the said Corporation shall or may Seal any manner of Instruments touching the same Corporation, and the Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments, Goods or other things thereto belonging, or in any wise touching or concerning the same.

And have a  
Common-  
Seal.

4. And further shall be Ordered, Directed and Visited, Placed, or upon Just Cause Displaced, by such Person or Persons, Bodies-Politick or Corporate, their Heirs, Successors or Assigns, as shall be nominated or assigned by the Founder or Founders thereof, their Heirs or Assigns, according to such Rules, Statutes and Ordinances, as shall be set forth, made, devised, or established by the said Founder or Founders, their Heirs or Assigns, in Writing, under his or their Hand and Seal, or such as shall from time to time be made, devised or established, by such Persons, or numbers of Persons, as shall by the said Founder or Founders, their Heirs or Assigns, be Authorized to make, alter or repeal, Rules, Statutes and Ordinances, for the better Government of such Hospitals, *Maisons de dieu*, and Houses of Correction, from time to time as Occasion shall require, so as such Rules, Statutes and Ordinances, be not repugnant, or contrary to the Laws and Statutes of this Realm, any Law, Statute, Custom or Usage, or other thing whatsoever to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding: And that it shall be lawful unto the Founder or Founders, his, and their Heirs or Assigns, upon the Death or Removal of any Head, or Member of any such Corporation, to place another in the Room of him that dieth, or is removed successively.

How visited

5. Provided always that all Leases, Grants or Estates to be made by any Corporation so to be Founded, as aforesaid, exceeding the number of One and twenty Years, and that in possession; and whereupon the Accustomable Yearly Rent, or more, by the greater part of One and twenty Years next before the making of such Leases, shall not be reserved, and Yearly payable, shall be void.

or what Grants  
to be made

6. Saving to all Persons, Bodies-Politick and Corporate, their Heirs and Successors, other than the Founders and Givers, their Heirs and Successors, All such Right, Claim, Title, Possession, Rents, Services, Commons, Demands, Interest and Profits, which they or any of them shall have, or of Right ought to have, of, in, or to any the Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments hereafter to be given, limited, or assigned, in form aforesaid, in as ample manner as if this Statute had never been had or made.

General Se-  
wing

7. Provided



Every Hof-  
pital to have  
10 l. per An.  
6. Provided also, That no such Hospital, Maison  
de Dieu, Abiding-Place, or House of Correction, shall  
be Erected, Founded, or Incorporated, by Force of  
this Act, unless upon the Foundation or Erection  
thereof, the same be Endowed with Lands, Tene-  
ments, or Hereditaments, of the clear Yearly Value  
of Ten pounds by the Year, or more.

Concern-  
ing Ap-  
peals.  
43 El. c. 2.  
1. Provided always, And be it further Enacted,  
That if any Person or Persons shall find them-  
selves agrieved with any Sels or Tax, or other Act,  
done by the said Overseers, or other Persons, or by  
any Act of any Justice or Justices of the Peace,  
done out of Sessions, concerning the Relief, Im-  
ployment, or Settlement of any poor Person, or  
putting out Apprentices, or concerning Bastards, or  
other the premises, That then it shall be Lawful  
for such Person or Persons agrieved, by any such  
Settlement, to Appeal to the Justices of the Peace  
of the County, where the Order concerning such  
Settlement was made: And for such Person or Per-  
sons agrieved, by any such other Act as aforesaid,  
to Appeal to the Justices of the Peace of the same  
County, City, Borough, Place, or Town-Corporate,  
where such Act was done, at their next General  
Quarter-Sessions of the Peace (giving reasonable No-  
tice to the Parties concerned) where the Justice of  
Peace, or the greater number of them, shall take  
such Order therein as to them shall be thought con-  
venient, and the same to conclude and bind all the  
said Parties.

Power to  
Award  
Costs upon  
Appeal on a  
Settlement.  
8 & 9 W. 3. c.  
2.  
2. And for the more effectual preventing of friv-  
olous Appeals, Be it Enacted, by the Authority  
aforesaid, That the Justices of the Peace of any  
County, Riding, or Division, in their General or  
Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, upon any Appeal  
before them there to be had, for and concerning  
the Settlement of any poor Person, or upon any  
proof before them there to be made, of notice of  
any such Appeal to have been given by the pro-  
per Officer, to the Overseers of the Poor of any  
Parish or Place, (tho' they did not afterwards pro-  
secute such Appeal) shall at the same Quarter-  
Sessions Award and Order, to the Party for whom;  
and in whose behalf such Appeal shall be deter-  
mined, or to whom such notice did appear to have  
been given as aforesaid, such Costs and Charges  
in the Law, as by the said Justices in their Discre-  
tion shall be thought most Reasonable and Just to  
be paid by the Overseers of the Poor, or any o-  
ther Person against whom such Appeal shall be De-  
termined, or by the Person that did give such No-  
tice as aforesaid. And if the Person Ordered to  
pay such Costs, shall happen to live in any Coun-  
ty, Riding, City or Town-Corporate, or elsewhere,  
out of the Jurisdiction of the said Court, It shall  
and may be Lawful for any Justice of the Peace,  
of the County, Riding, City, Liberty, or Town-  
Corporate, wherein such Person shall Inhabit; And  
every such Justice is hereby required, upon Request  
to him for that purpose to be made, and upon a  
true Copy of the Order for the payment of such  
Costs produced, and proved by some Credible Wit-  
nesses upon Oath, by Warrant under his Hand and  
Seal, to cause the Money mentioned in that Order  
to be Levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods  
of the Person that is Ordered, or ought to Pay the  
same; and if no Distress can, or may be had, to  
Commit such Person to the Common Goal of that  
County, or Liberty, there to remain by the space  
of Twenty Days.

Living to  
Liberty  
St. Albans.  
3. Provided also, That this Act, or any thing  
therein contained, shall not be Construed to hinder  
the Justices of the Peace, within the Liberty of  
St. Albans, from Hearing and Determining any Ap-  
peals for the Settlement of the Poor, in their Quar-  
ter-Sessions, as they might have done before the  
making of this Act; any thing therein contained to  
the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority  
aforesaid, That all Fines and Forfeitures appointed,  
or to grow by this present Act, (except such as are  
otherwise limited and appointed by this present Act)  
shall wholly go and be employed to the use of the  
Reparations and Maintenance of the said Houses of  
Correction, and Stock and Store thereof, or Relief of  
the Poor of the Parish or Place where the Offence  
shall be committed, at the Discretion of the Justices  
of the Peace of the same County, Riding, City,  
Town-Corporate or Place: And that all Fines and  
Forfeitures appointed to grow by Conviction of any  
Person, according to this present Act, and not  
herein otherwise directed, shall by Warrant un-  
der the Hands and Seals of any two or more  
Justices of the Peace of the same County, Riding,  
City, Town-Corporate or Place, be Levied by Dis-  
tress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Of-  
fender, rendering to the Party the Overplus, if any  
be; which Sale shall be good in Law against  
such Offender. And if any of the said Offences  
where no other manner of Conviction is herein ap-  
pointed, shall be confessed by the Offender, or that  
the same shall be proved by two lawful Witnesses,  
before two or more Justices of the Peace, That then  
every such Person shall forthwith stand, and be in the  
Law Convicted thereof.

2. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority  
aforesaid, That the Mayors, Bailiffs, and others,  
Head Officers of every City, Town-Corporate, or  
Place, within this Realm, being Justice or Justices  
of Peace, shall have the same Authority, by Vertue  
of this Act, within the Limits and Precincts of  
their Jurisdictions, as well out of Sessions as at their  
Sessions (if they hold any) as is herein limited,  
prescribed and appointed, to the Justices of the Peace  
of the County, or any two or more of them; Or  
to the Justices of Peace in their Quarter-Sessions, to  
do and execute for all the purposes in this Act  
prescribed, (unless in Cases of Appeal concerning  
the Settlement of any poor Person) and no other  
Justice or Justices of Peace to enter or meddle  
there.

3. And that every Alderman of the City of Lon-  
don, within his Ward, shall and may do and exe-  
cute in every respect, so much as is appointed and  
allowed by this Act, to be done and executed by  
one or more Justices of Peace in any County with-  
in this Realm.

4. And be it further Enacted by the Authority  
aforesaid, That if it shall happen any Parish to ex-  
tend it self into more Counties than one, and part  
to lie within the Liberties of any City, Town-  
Corporate, or Place, and part without, that then  
as well the Justices of Peace of every County, as  
also the Head Officers and Justices of such City,  
Town-Corporate, or Place, shall deal and intermed-  
dle only in so much of the said Parish as lieth  
within their Liberties, and not any further: And  
every of them respectively, within their several  
Limits, Wards and Jurisdictions, shall execute the  
several parts of this Act, and yet nevertheless, the  
Overseers, or the most part of them, of the said  
Parishes that do extend into such several Limits and  
Jurisdictions, shall, without dividing themselves, du-  
ly execute their Office in all places within the said  
Parish, in all things to them belonging, and shall  
duly exhibit and make one Account before the said  
Head Officer of the City, Town-Corporate, or Place,  
and one other before the said Justices of the Peace, or  
any two of them, as is aforesaid.

5. Provided always, and be it Enacted by the Autho-  
rity aforesaid, That the Island of Fowlness in the County  
of Essex, being environed with the Sea, and having a  
Chappel of Ease for the Inhabitants thereof, shall  
be taken as a Parish for all the Purposes of this  
Act; And the Justices of Peace shall appoint Inha-  
bitants of the said Island to be Overseers of the  
Poor of the said Island; And the Justices of Peace,  
the Overseers, and the Inhabitants of the said Island,  
shall

General  
Clauses.  
Fines and  
Forfeitures,  
how to be  
applied and  
raised.

Power of  
Justices in  
Cities or  
Towns-Cor-  
porate.

Power of an  
Alderman in  
London.

Where Pa-  
rishes extend  
into two  
Counties.

Fowlness in  
Essex to be  
taken as a  
Parish.



shall have the same Power and Authority for the Executing the several Parts of this Act, and shall be subject to the same Penalties, and liable to the same Payments, within the Compass of this Act, as if the same Island were a Parish. In Consideration whereof, neither the said Inhabitants nor Occupiers of Land within the said Island, shall be compellable to Contribute to the Relief of the Poor of the Parishes within which their Houses or Lands, which they Occupy within the said Island, are Situate; nor yet the other Inhabitants, or Occupiers of Houses or Lands within the said Parishes, be compellable to contribute to the Relief of the Poor within the said Island.

Justices, or other Officers, in case a y Action be brought against them, may plead the Gen ral Issue, and give the special Matter in Evidence.

6. And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Action shall be brought against any Justice or Justices of the Peace, Mayors, Bailiffs, or other Officers of Cities and Towns Corporate, Churchwardens, Overseers of the Poor, or other Officers, or any of them, for any thing by him or them done by the Authority of this Act, the Defendant or Defendants, in such Action, may plead not Guilty, or may make Avowry, Cognizance or Justification, of any Distress, or other thing taken or done by virtue of this Act, by alledging in such Avowry, Cognizance or Justification, that the Distress, or other thing whereof the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs complain, was done by the Authority of this Act, and according to the tenour, purport and effect of the same, without rehearsing or expressing any other Matter or Circumstance contained in this Act: To which Avowry, Cognizance or Justification, the said Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall be admitted to Reply. That the Defendant or Defendants did take such Distress, or take or do such other thing supposed in the Declaration of his or their own wrong, without any such Cause as is alledged by the said Defendant or Defendants; whereupon Issue shall be joyned to be tryed by a Jury of twelve Men, and not otherwise, as is accustomed in other Personal Actions, and upon the Tryal of that Issue the whole Matter shall be given by both Parties in evidence according to the Tenth, and after Verdict for the Defendant or Defendants in the said Cause or Non-suit of the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs after appearance, such Defendant or Defendants shall recover treble Damage for his causeless vexation, with Costs also to be Assessed by the same Jury, or upon a Writ to enquire of the Damages, as the Case shall require.

Acts Repealed, and when.

7. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That,

1. So much of one Act made in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of the late Queen Elizabeth, Entituled, *An Act for the Punishment of Vagabonds, and for the Relief of the Poor and Impotent, as concerneth the Taxing, Rating, Levying, Receiving and Employing of Goal-Money, and so much of one Act made in the Eighteenth Year of the Reign of the said late Queen Elizabeth, Entituled, An Act for setting the Poor on Work, and avoiding Idleness, as concerneth Bastards begotten out of lawful Matrimony; together with,*

2. The Addition therunto made, by an Act made in the Third Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King Charles the First, Entituled, *An Act for the Continuance and Repeal of divers Statutes; and also,*

3. Three other Acts made in the Nine and thirtieth Year of the Reign of the late Queen Elizabeth, One Entituled, *An Act for the punishment of Rogues, Vagabonds, and sturdy Beggars, with the Provision therunto annexed, by an Act made in the First Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King James the First, Entituled, An Act for the Continuing and Reviving divers Statutes, and Repealing some others. One other Entituled, An Act for the Erecting of Hospitals, or Abiding and Working-Houses, for the Poor. And one other, Entituled, An Act against Lewd and Wandring Persons pretending themselves to be Soldiers or Mariners. And also,*

4. Two other Acts made in the Forty third Year of the Reign of the said late Queen Elizabeth, one Entituled, *An Act for the Necessary Relief of Soldiers, and Mariners; and the other Entituled, An Act for the Relief of the Poor, with*

5. The Addition therunto annexed by the said Act, made in the First Year of the Reign of King James the First, Entituled, *An Act for Continuing divers Statutes, and for Repeal of some others. And,*

6. The further Addition therunto annexed, by an Act made in the Twenty first Year of the Reign of his said Majesty King James the First, Entituled, *An Act for Continuing and Reviving of divers Statutes, and Repeal of divers others. And,*

7. The further Addition therunto annexed by the said Act, made in the Third Year of the Reign of the late King Charles the First, Entituled, *An Act for the Continuance and Repeal of divers Statutes. And also,*

8. Two other Acts made in the First Year of the Reign of King James the First, one Entituled, *An Act for the Continuance and Explanation of the Statute made in the Thirty ninth Year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, Entituled, An Act for the punishment of Rogues, Vagabonds, and sturdy Beggars: And the other Entituled, An Act for the Reviving and Making perpetual of one Act, made in the Nine and thirtieth Year of the Reign of the late Queen Elizabeth, Entituled, An Act for the Erecting of Hospitals, and Abiding and Working-Houses for the Poor. And also,*

9. Two other Acts made in the Seventh Year of the Reign of King James the First, one Entituled, *An Act for the Continuing and better Maintenance of Husbandry, and other Manual Occupations, by the true Employment of Monies given, or to be given, for the Binding out of Apprentices. And the other Entituled, An Act for the due Execution of divers Laws and Statutes heretofore made, against Rogues, Vagabonds, and sturdy Beggars, and other Lewd and Idle Persons. And,*

10. So much of the said Act made in the Third Year of the Reign of King Charles the First, Entituled, *An Act for the Continuance and Repeal of divers Statutes, And of one other Statute made in the Sixteenth Year of the Reign of King Charles the First, Entituled, An Act for the further Relief of his Majesties Army, and the Northern Parts of the Kingdom, as relates to the Reviving or Continuing any of the aforementioned Acts. And also,*

11. One Act made in the Session of Parliament held in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Years of the Reign of King Charles the Second, Entituled, *An Act for the better Relief of the Poor of this Kingdom, except what relates to the Corporations and Work-Houses therein mentioned and constituted; together with,*

12. The addition therunto annexed, by an Act made in the First Year of the Reign of King James the Second, Entituled, *An Act for Reviving and Continuing several Acts of Parliament therein mentioned. And,*

13. One Act made in the Session of Parliament held in the Third and Fourth Years of Their late Majesties King William and Queen Mary, Entituled, *An Act for the better Explanation and Supplying the defects of the former Laws, for the Setlement of the Poor. And,*

14. One Act made in the Session of Parliament held in the Eighth and Ninth Years of the Reign of his late Majesty King William the Third, Entituled, *An Act for Supplying some defects in the Laws for the Relief of the Poor of this Kingdom. And,*

15. One Act made in the Session of Parliament held in the Ninth and Tenth Years of the Reign of his said late Majesty King William the Third, Entituled, *An Act for Explaining an Act made in the last Session of Parliament, Entituled, An Act for Supplying some defects in the Laws, for the Relief of the Poor of this Kingdom. And also,*

16. One other Act, made in the Session of Parliament held in the Eleventh and Twelfth Years of the Reign of his said late Majesty King William the Third, Entituled, *An Act for the more effectual punishment of Vagrants, and sending them whither by Law they ought to be sent. And also,*

17. One other Act, made in the First Year of Her present Majesties Reign, Entituled, *An Act for the more Effectual preventing the Abuses and Frauds of Persons employed in the Working up the Woollen, Linen, Fustian, Cotton,*



*Cotton, and Iron Manufactures of this Kingdom; from and after the Five and twentieth day of March, which shall be in the Year of Our Lord One thousand seven hundred and Five, shall be, and are hereby repealed.*

18. And the several Statutes repealed, in and by any of the Acts hereby repealed, shall, from and after the said Five and twentieth day of March, stand and be repealed.

19. And from and after the said 25th day of March, and not before, this present Act shall Commence and take Effect, and be put in due Execution:

20. *Provided* always, that nothing in this present Act shall extend, or be construed, to make void any Act or thing done, or to be done, on or before the said Five and twentieth day of March, One thousand seven hun-

*Continuance of the Repeal of old Laws Repealed by the Acts above.*

*Commencement of this Act.*

*All Acts done before 25 March 1705. to stand good.*

dred and five, by Vertue or Authority of any the before-mentioned Acts hereby repealed, but that the same shall be, stand and continue, of the same force and effect as if this Act had not been made, any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

21. *Provided* also, that nothing in this Act shall extend to repeal or alter any Charter, Statute, or Act of Parliament heretofore made, for the particular Regulation, Relief or Employment of the Poor, in any particular City, Borough, Town-Corporate, or other Place within this Realm, but that every such Charter and Statute shall remain of the same force and effect, as if this Act had never been made.

A Saving for all Corporate Workhouses.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

**T**HIS Bill containing the Substance of many Acts of Parliament, with such Additions and Amendments as were thought requisite and necessary for the more effectual Relief, Employment, and Settlement of the Poor, and being of great Importance and Universal Concern to the whole Nation; it was not ordered to be brought into the House of Commons, with an intention to be passed into a Law the same Session, but to the end that it might be Considered and Amended by a Committee appointed for that purpose, and then be Printed and Published for the Consideration of Her Majesty, the Honourable Members of both Houses, the Judges, Justices of the Peace, Lawyers, and chief Inhabitants of every Parish within the whole Kingdom, against the next Session of Parliament; so great was the Care of that Honourable House for promoting the General Good and Welfare of all the People.

As to the References which are made to the several Laws and Statutes now in Being, relating to the Poor, it is to be observed, that when any Statute is mentioned in the Margent, all the Clauses following, till there is a Reference made to another, do relate to that Statute or else contain some new Matter added to it; but it was not thought practicable to describe exactly, what is New and what is Old, by reason of the many Amendments made to reconcile the Sense of the Old Laws together, to reduce them under proper Heads, and in some places to join two or more Clauses together, but every Person that will take the trouble to compare this Bill with those Laws in the Margent, may observe the Additions and Amendments made to them, and that notwithstanding the Length of it, the Laws herein contained are not only put into a Method, which was very much wanting, but are also contracted into a narrower Compass; and the Omissions of the Preambles of every Act, as well as the joining two Clauses together, must necessarily contribute to the shortning of it; however for the more ready finding out any Part of this Bill, the Contents thereof are set forth in manner aforesaid.

The following Clauses coming too late to be added to the Bill, are, at the Request of divers worthy Persons, humbly offered to Consideration against the next Session of Parliament.

A Clause for Incorporating the Benefactors to the Charity Schools, for the Education or Maintenance of Poor Children at School.

**W**HEREAS divers Children by reason of the Poverty of their Parents, are brought up to Begging, and other idle Courses of Life, whereby they become a Charge to their Parishes, and a Grievance to the Nation; and forasmuch as several Schools have been lately set up and Established by the Voluntary Subscriptions of Charitable and well-disposed Persons, in several Parishes within the Cities of London and Westminster, and in divers other places within the Realm of England, and Dominion of Wales, for instructing poor Children, both Boys and Girls, whose Parents are not able to afford them Education, in the Principles of the Christian Religion, according to the Doctrine and Discipline of the Church of England, as by Law Established, and for qualifying the Boys by learning to Read, Write, and Cast Account, and the Girls by learning moreover to Spin, Knit, and work Needle-work, to get their Living by their own Labour, and instead of being a Burthen to their Parishes, to be serviceable to them, and the whole

Nation: And whereas the said Subscribers do Labour under some Difficulties for want of Power to make By-Laws for the better Government of the said Schools, and divers well-disposed Persons are discouraged from Contributing thereto, in perpetuity; by reason that the same are not under any Regulation or Legal Establishment, nor any Persons appointed to visit and take care that the said Charitable Gifts be faithfully applied to the Uses aforesaid, Be it therefore Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That within every Parish within this Kingdom, the Minister, Church-warden, and Church-wardens of the Parish for the time being, and every Person and Persons as shall actually contribute any Annual Sum or Sums of Money not under *for the Education or Maintenance of such Poor Children at School*, to be instructed there in the manner above-mentioned, shall be Incorporated, and have perpetual Succession, and in case the said School be for Boys, shall be named and called by the name of *The Benefactors to the Charity School*.

The Minister, Church-wardens and Benefactors to be a Body Politick. The Name of the Corporation.



School for Boys in the Parish of V. and all such and if the said School be for Girls, shall be named and called by the Name of The Benefactors to the said Charity School for Girls within the Parish of V. and all such or by such other Name as the Minister and Churchwardens shall by Deed Inroll'd in the High Court of Chancery, assign, limit, and appoint; and shall by the Name of the Incorporation thereof, have full Power, Authority, and Lawful Capacity and Ability, to Purchase, Hold, receive, and enjoy, and have to them and their Successors for ever, as well Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments, being Freehold, as Goods and Chattels, Sum and Sums of Money, which any Person or Persons having a Capacity in Law to dispose thereof, are hereby empowered to Give, Grant, Convey, and Assure to them and their Successors, at their Will and Pleasure, any Law, Usage, or Statute, to the contrary thereof, in any wise notwithstanding; Provided always that the same Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, shall not exceed the Yearly value of above all Charges and Reprizes, to any one School or Corporation; and shall be conveyed to them and their Successors, by Deed or Deeds in Writing, which shall be Inroll'd in the High Court of Chancery, within six Months next after the Execution of any such Deed or Deeds respectively. And the said Persons so Incorporated and named, shall have Power and Authority by the Name of the Incorporation thereof, to Sue and be Sued, Implead and be Impleaded in all manner of Suits and Actions in all Courts within this Realm, and shall have and Enjoy such a Common Seal or Seals for sealing their Instruments and Writings, as they or the major part of them shall direct and appoint, and shall have power to appoint School-Masters or School-Mistresses, Treasurers and other Officers, and make By-Laws and Ordinances for the better Government of the said Charity-School, and managing the Affairs of the said Corporation, so as such Rules and Ordinances, be not repugnant, or contrary to the Laws and Statutes of this Realm.

Power to receive Benefactions by Deeds enrolled in Chancery.

Power to Sue and be Sued, to have a common Seal, and to make By-Laws.

Who shall be Members of the said Corporation.

2. And for an Encouragement to all well disposed persons, freely and voluntarily to contribute to the said Laudable and Christian purposes, Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that every person and persons, that shall at any time hereafter, and as often as he or they shall pay, or cause to be paid to the Treasurer for the time being, of any such School and Corporation, any Sum or Sums of Money, not under shall be deemed and taken to be free, and to be a Member or Members of the said Corporation, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, for and during the space of one whole year next ensuing the payment of such Sum or Sums of Money as aforesaid, and no longer. And that choice from time to time be made of the poorest sort of Children under the Age of ten Years,

of every such Parish where such School shall be erected, and whose Parents are least able to relieve them.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That upon Complaint made to the Bishop of the Diocese, and to the Justices of the Peace, at their General Quarter-Sessions, in any County, City or Town or Corporate where such Schools are, that any Charitable Gift for the Purposes aforesaid, hath been mismanaged or misapplied, and upon an Order by them made, appointing a certain number of Justices to enquire into the same, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Bishop of every Diocese and his Chancellor, and the said Justices of the Peace, so named in the said Order, or any four or more of them, to execute all such and the same Powers and Authorities, for enquiring into, and Redressing and Ordering of any such Charitable Gifts, in as full and ample, and the same manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the said Bishop, Chancellor, and Justices of the Peace, were named and appointed in or by any Commission issued out of the High Court of Chancery, pursuant to the Statute made in the Forty third Year of the Reign of the late Queen Elizabeth, Intituled, *An Act to redress the Misemployment of Lands, Goods, and Stocks of Money heretofore given to certain Charitable Uses.*

4. And to the end that such poor Boys may be farther Educated or Provided for, according to their several and respective Capacities and Qualifications, Be it therefore Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful to and for every such Corporation, to employ any part of the Surplusage of the said Benefactions, if any be, beyond what shall be requisite for the Maintenance of the said School, and to and for every Person and Persons, having a Capacity in Law, to dispose of Lands and Tenements, and by any Deed or Deeds Inroll'd in the High Court of Chancery, to Give, Grant, and Convey, to, or to the use of, any College or Hall in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, or either of them, who are hereby enabled to receive and enjoy accordingly, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, not exceeding the Yearly Rent or Value of to any one College or Hall, over and above the present Endowment thereof, to and for the Maintenance and Education of any poor Boy or Boys, at any such College or Hall in either of the said Universities, any Law, Usage, or Statute, to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding; and it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Corporations, and every of them, to employ such part of the Surplusage of the said Benefactions, if any be, as they shall think fit, to and for the Placing and Binding any such poor Boys or Girls Apprentices, to any Person or Persons, lawfully using any Trade, Mystery, or Occupation, for any term of Years not exceeding

The Surplusage of the Benefactions to be employed in Maintaining Poor Boys at the Universities, or in Binding them Apprentices.

This Bill being thus published with an intent that it may be made a Perfect and Compleat Law, to answer the true end thereof, which is to Relieve the Poor, and in some measure to ease the Nation of so great a Burthen; it is to be hoped that an account of any Omissions or Mistakes (which notwithstanding the great care that has been taken, may have happened in a Bill of this Nature, where so many Laws made in several Reigns, were to be Amended and Reduced into One, and also for want of knowing the particular Circumstances of each Parish,) will be communicated by all Persons concerned to the respective Members; or in their absence, the same will be very thankfully received by

Their Humble Servant,



H. Mackworth.

From his House in Park-Street,  
Westminster April 24th. 1704.

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